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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FORTY-FIRST SESSION

OF THE

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

KANAKAKUNNU PALACE

TRIVANDRUM

9-11 October 1971

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Indian Historical Records Commission

Forty-first Session,

Trivandrum, 9-11 October 1971.

The 41st Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission was held on 9-11 October 1971 at the Kanakakunnu Palace Trivandrum under the auspices of the Government of Kerala. Before the function started, a group photograph of the members present was taken along with Shri Venkata Viswanathan, Governor of Kerala, who had kindly consented to inaugurate the Session, Shri C.H.Mohammed Koya, Minister of Education, Government of Kerala and Dr.George Jacob, Vice-Chancellor, Kerala University.

Apart from the two business meetings of the Commission held on the 10th and discussion meeting on "Religio-Political Movements in India in the 19th Century" held on the forenoon of the 11th October 1971, the delegates were invited to a number of social and cultural programmes beginning with the State dinner given by the Minister of Education, Government of Kerala on the 9th evening. On the 10th October the Kerala History Association held a Reception in their honour as a part of its silver jubilee celebrations and on the 11th the Mayor of Kerala was <u>At-Home</u> to the delegates. In addition to these, the delegates were taken to the famous Kovalam beach and to Kanya Kumari and other historical places <u>en-route</u>.

List of members who attended the session is appended at the end.

<u>Inaugural Function</u>

The inaugural function was held on the afternoon of the 9th October at the Kanakakunnu Palace. The proceedings started with the following Welcome Address of Shri C.H. Mohammed Koya:

"Ladies and Gentlemen,

I deem it a great privilege and have much pleasure in welcoming you to this beautiful and historic city, the capital of Kerala. It is a rare opportunity to have such a get-together of eminent historians, academicians, administrators, and distinguished scholars like you. We are lucky to have with us His Excellency Shri V. Viswanathan, the Governor of Kerala who has kindly agreed to inaugurate the Session. His interest in the pursuit of knowledge is a trait worthy of emulation by us all. We look forward towards of wisdom and guidance from him, on this historic oecasion.

"The Central Education Minister who is the Ex-Officio President of the Indian Historical Records Commission cannot, unfortunately for us, be with us to preside over this session of the Commission. We cordially and heartily welcome the Minister of State for Eeucation Prof. S. Nurul Hasan, who is, as you all know, an eminent historian and formerly the Director of Centre of Advanced Studies in Medieval History of the well known University of Aligarh and who has graciously agreed to preside over today's function though in absentia. He will be arriving a little later this evening. I am indeed very happy to welcome Dr. George Jacob, the Vice-Chancellor, Kerala University, who has so kindly agreed to inaugurate the exhibition of archival materials displayed in connection with the Session and to release the Commemoration Volume highlighting 'Kerala and Her Culture'. I hope you, the distinguished scholars, delegates and others who have come from various parts of the country to participate in this

Conference, will have a purposeful session and a happy stay. I would request you to bear with us for any inconvenience you might experience. My team of officers would be willing to render help whenever required. We extend our special welcome and thanks to Dr. Prasad and his band of energetic officers who arrived here earlier to help with the arrangements for the conference.

Though Kerala is rich in historical monuments and records, very few scholars have been able to adequately explore the rich and hidden sources of history. Historians who turn to the study of Kerala in ancient and medieval periods have loudly lamented the lack of any records for these periods. It would not be incorrect to mention that the abundant source materials of history that are in different archives in India relating to Kerala have been ignored in codyfying the history of this part of the country and her people. Needless to say, this unscientific method makes the history of these periods nothing better than conjecture. It is from scholars, researchers and academicians, much more than Government, that initiative must come for proper upkeep, preservation and maintenance of records. For, from the point of view of the nation, inevitably, archives cannot have as much of a priority, as efforts to produce more for ensuring a decent standard of living. Viewed this way, what Governments have done in this field so far are commendable, though a great deal remains to be tackled. One of the chief thrusts of this conference would be to focus the attention of the public to the vital role that is played by archives in the compiling of the history of the nation or State and what measures could be attempted to bridge the present inadequacy in this sphere.

"While little can be done by us to restore the lost archival treasures of the country, it is certainly within our power to prevent existing records from getting lost or damaged through sheer neglect. Anyone who has attempted to do research on any aspect of Kerala history must have experienced a sense of frustration, for even records that date back 100 years are difficult to come by. We need to collect and index all our invaluable records in such a manner that they can be traced out easily on requisition. Scientific devices of management need to be adopted so that old records are not destroyed or burned without evaluating their worth and only what is really necessary is preserved. This kind of approach requires not only money and training but a proper attitude to the whole question. In other words, dedication by the concerned people is of prime importance. A proposal to organise the Archives of Kerala on modern and scientific lines is already afoot and my officers are working at it. I bring this matter before the Indian Historical Records Commission with the firm confidence that the Commission would use its good offices to get financial assistance from all likely sources. Once more I welcome you most cordially and wish the Session every success.

Thank you.

JAI HIND"

Inaugurating the session, Shri V. Viswanathan, Governor of Kerala, addressed the audience in the following words:

"Honourable Education Minister, Dr. Prasad, Vice-Chancellor, Ladies & Gentlemen,

"This is the third time that the annual session of the Indian Historical Records Commission is being held in Trivandrum. On this occasion, my first duty is to extend a very warm welcome to all of you delegates who have come from different parts of India to participate in the deliberations of this conference. You will find Kerala one of the most beautiful, and one of the cleanest spots in India. Trivandrum, you will discover, is one of the most beautiful cities of our country. I only hope that those who have been responsible for inviting you here will make adequate arrangements to provide you opportunities of going round and seeing something of the beautiful places in the State. I also hope that those who invited you here will take the trouble to see that your stay during the few days in our State is made comfortable.

"We are all gathered here as people interested in historical records. The collection, the preservation, the management of these records will serve for writing history. You are dealers in the raw materials of history. You are handling the bricks and mortar with which the mansions of history are built up. But surely your interest lies deeper than that. Many of you are eminent historians, not merely archivists and recorders, and must have reflected from time to time, must have studied the philosophy and the purposes of history. History is only one of the many branches of human knowledge. What are the similarities and what are differences between this branch of knowledge and the body of human

knowledge as a whole. In the course of the millenniums during which man has pursued knowledge, he has discovered that knowledge has several aspects. Knowledge is a thing that the earliest man pursued for its own sake. He was moved by the wonder and the awe which every thing, and particularly the forces of nature, exercised upon him. They, the ancients, desired to know things for themselves; to acquire knowledge as its own aim, which has been the first and foremost impulse in all search for knowledge. In the course of our development later, we have discovered utilitarian purposes in knowledge. We discovered that knowledge is power, that knowledge also helps to improve the human being himself. But is the science of history different from other branches of human knowledge? For example, can we claim that history is a philosophy with a well-knit scheme of its own? There has been considerable discussion on this matter, particularly during the last few centuries. Is there a design or a pattern in history? Is there a plan which history follows? Is there a cyclic process in history? The earlier philosophers tried to maintain that history moves in cycles. Does "history, like an idiot, repeat itself"; All these discussions have so far led us nowhere. Nobody will or can exactly say that he can discover a design in history, that there is a set course in human events; that there is that there is a pattern which the history unfolds; that there is some cycle which history follows. And, therefore, as in the farthest reaches of physical sciences like physics and astro-physics, you must, after all these speculations into the deep unknown, come back and be content with the study of

history as an empirical day to day business. Let us absorb more, let us study human nature. But there is one thing that is quite clear. After all what is human history? What is the role, the span of human history, which is not very much more than five thousand years, and the earliest part of this five thousand years is still unknown, and most of it is buried under the soil of this earth. During these five thousand years, biological evolution has taken hardly a step. (Other natural phenomena take millions of years to develop.) Human knowledge, technical progress, science, has sought during the last two to three hundred years full mastery over nature. Technological progress has realised for us many of the dreams of man. We have also discovered the most dangerous thing; that knowledge is power. With the fast evolution of scientific objective knowledge, man's enormous power has grown at the same proportion. Man to-day is faced with this problem: that his power is now keeping pace with human evolution. He has become so powerful a source for good and for evil, for the reconstruction of the world and for the complete destruction of this world; and yet he finds that his wisdom has lagged behind. He does not know how to use this power. The reason is: that human nature, the motivations of human conduct, have not evolved with even a small fraction of the speed with which all knowledge has evolved. Power or knowledge has grown. Human conduct, human behaviour, the reaction of human beings towards the other human beings, the situations in which his own sentiments are involved are the regions which have remained more or less static over a period of 5000 years which covers the span of history. This may or may not be desirable. I am

not concerned here with the ethics of the matter. But this means that if we study human nature, if we study human history, we study how man has conducted himself in the face of one situation after another, in each situation how exactly he behaved, how exactly had he conducted himself, what measure of success had he achieved at one moment and what humiliations had he suffered at the other. This is a record of mankind for the last 5000 years. If you study this, as I said, the progress of this type in man's evolution is so slow that all that history has to tell you is just as it was 2000 years ago. That, therefore, becomes one of the most important utilitarian purposes of the study of history. This is particularly important to those who would conduct the affairs of mankind: to those who would rule mankind; those who aspire to be princes and emperors; those who aspire to be ministers and chief ministers; those who aspire to be administrators. This is of great significance.

"Coming to our own country we have to see what lessons our own history has for us. How do we study our own history, and where are the relevant records for the earlier period of our history, in the days when the land was mainly Hindu. The Hindus, it is said, had no sense of history. They had the Puranas, full of myths and legends and occasional dynastic lists. Mind, you, the legends of our people are not entirely imaginary. They are based on a hard core around which their story was woven. They are relevant records of that period. Except these, we shall have to go to the odd inscriptions by minor rulers, gold or copper coins, and it

will be very difficult for us to construct a connected story of our own, a story of the past.

"Then came the Muslims. Muslims have always been interested in recording contemporary events or events of the recent past. When the first Muslim invader came, a very learned man, Alberuni also came. He showed great interest, met people and learnt Sanskrit. Then take Firishta at Bijapur. You may say that some of their records lack objectivity. But human beings are never completely objective. A completely objective human being is inhuman. Every human being is subjective. And they recorded. And that is how our recorded history begins. With their interpretations we may agree or we may not agree, but that was really history.

"But we now come to another period with the death of Aurangzeb in 1707, and the chaos which resulted in anarchy. 1707-1818 was the period of confusion. There is no comparison between the system of Government now in India and the system of Government before 1707. There is nothing in the world to compare the two. The whole structure of the administration and rule of law or justification for Government action, has been evolved in the last 200 years. The foundation was laid in the first half, and in the second, the administrative structure was set up. That period is the true foundation of today's Government, of our very Constitution, our concept of democracy. We had no concept of social organisation before. There was nothing more of Government than either benevolent or malevolent dictatorship. There was no such thing as law, there was no such thing as people collecting together to amend

the laws. The foundations of our modern administration in India were laid in these 200 years, 1700 to 1900. That period, to begin with, has a lot of records in the India Office, whatever records may or may not have been kept in India. The East India Company maintained correspondence and records. This consists of two kinds of records - one is papers in the government offices and the papers in the government offices in this period are very different from the papers of the Muslim chroniclers. In those papers, records, correspondence, different people could set forth arguments for and against the particular course of action. Not only correspondence but the notes on files that various authorities have made which we always refer to as minutes. Now, those minutes and those books and correspondence are different from earlier records.

"They first set forth the opinions of people, then set forth the defence and criticism of different suggested courses of action, and they finally record the decision taken. If you look at them today, you not only know what was decided, but who held what view, what were the merits of each particular decision. Administrators, in so far as relevent in their today's problems, will be wiser after a study of these records. That is one part. That period of 1700-1900 was also a great time for builders of the British Empire in India. The true founders of the modern system of Government in India mainly were men like Warren Hastings, Wellesley, Malcolm, Elphinstone, Tod and Thompson, the great administrators in the Punjab, the Lawrence brothers, and so many others. These people have left behind their own stories. They have left the record of their

experiences, the actions they took, and the various reasons which brought them to different decisions. And to the administrators of today, and to the politicians of today, the best advice that I can give on this occasion is: go deep into the personal memoirs of those people, Malcolm and Elphinstone and others of their contemporaries. You will learn a great deal not only about Indian history but also how to manage people, how to govern people, how to run the administration of this country. This administrative process continued and that is how we have now very valuable records at India Office, and they are likely to remain there. They are valuable to our scholars. We are ourselves building up our own system of archives. It means we are making good progress. Preservation of records is necessary. But, as the Hindu philosophy tells you, you cannot preserve without destroying. You cannot preserve all the records. In the preservation of records, the most important thing is what is destroyed. Therefore, weeding out of records is as important as selection of records for preservation. Do not keep all the rubbish and the junk and the things of ephemeral value and clutter up the archives. Then, how to conserve them, how to preserve them by modern scientific methods and how to give facilities, subject to State Acts, to all scholars to have access to them:

"You have selected for this particular Session, a special subject "Religio-Political Movements in India in the 19th century". I am very glad that you have taken the movement in the 19th century, as that happens to be one of the most significant periods in the process of our modern religio-political evolution. I am going to talk to you now about

what the Hindus did about religion in the old times. They in their own way discussed many things. But what happens when hammer blows come from outside? What is the reaction? This is the way to look at 19th century history. What happens not merely in isolation, when you are living by youself. What happens when the hammer blow of an invader comes and hits? The first impact of the Muslim invasion - and the Muslim invasion came when Hinduism had reached a particularly low point of decadence, was bound to cause a dent. There was intercourse between these two cultures and civilisations. In that fermentation you may notice that the Hindus out of their ancient philosophy dug out the Bhakti cult, and the figures of Surdas, Kabir and Tulsidas come into prominence. They gave up speculation, they gave up intellectual investigations and took to the Bhakti Marga or dedication to God. Out of the Bhakti Marga, came a new literature, and there was revival of the ancient dialects of the country, gradually evolving into modern Indian languages. Out of the impact of Islam on Hinduism came also the rise of Bhakti Marga itself. Kabir and Surdas and Nanak and Govind, and the Sikh religion, arose as a result of that impact. But all that was being wasted away by the 17th or 18th century. This time the circumstances were different. The foreigner discovered Sanskrit for the Hindus. The Hindus had forgotten their Sanskrit. The foreigner did a lot of work into the past for India. The foreigner brought science from the West. He brought another new religion. Islam, so far had produced an impact on the religion of Hinduism. But Europeans brought western sciences, rationalism, and new social obligations;

No.F.4-71/C
Indian Historical Records Commission,
(National Archives of India)
Janpath,
New Delhi-1, the ... 1972.

Subject:- Indian Historical Records Commission - Proceedings of the 41st Session held at Trivandrum in October 1971.

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Dear Sir,

I am sending herewith a copy of the proceedings of the 41st Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Trivandrum in October, 1971 for favour of your information and action, if any.

Kindly acknowledge its receipt.

Yours faithfully,

M.L. Ahluwalia

for Secretary,
Indian Historical Records Commission.

Business Meeting

The Business Meeting of the Commission was held on the 10th October 1971 at 9.30 A.M. at the Kanakakunnu Palace, Trivandrum, Prof. S.Nurul Hasan, Union Minister of State for Education and Social Welfare, presided.

Resolution felicitating Prof.S.Nurul Hasan on his appointment as Union Minister of State for Education and Social Welfare

Before the agenda for the Business Meeting was taken up, Dr.S.P.Sen moved a resolution on behalf of the members of the Commission felicitating Prof.S.Nurul Hasan, an old and prominent Member of the Indian Historical Records Commission, on his appointment as Union Minister of State. Prof.O.P. Bhatnagar, who seconded the resolution, expressed the hope that inspite of his preoccupations with wider responsibilities, the Indian Historical Records Commission and the Universities will continue to receive the Minister's support in their programmes. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

> Resolution I The members of the Commission assembled for its 41st Session at Trivandrum congratulate Prof.S.Nurul Hasan on his appointment as Union Minister of State for Education and Social Welfare, and fervently hope that, as one of its prominent members who has always evinced keen interest in the development of archives and historical studies, Prof.Hasan will take every possible step for the early implementation of all those recommendations of the Committee on Archival Legislation about which the Government of India is already committed, so as to give effective lead to the State Governments and others in this field.

Thanking the members for their sentiments and felicitations, Professor Hasan stated that he had taken leave from the University and hoped to get back to his old profession in due course. In the meanwhile, he would make every possible

attempt to further the cause of education. He further stated that he always treated the Commission with very great respect, and hoped that the decisions of this body would receive due consideration by all the State Governments and the Universities also.

2. Motion of Condolence

The Secretary then performed the sorrowful duty of informing the Commission about the names of those of its members who had breathed their last since the 40th Session of the Commission. It was proposed that the Commission should also mourn the death of Shri K.Kalappan, a well known scholar from Kerala. The members stood up in silence for two minutes, after which the following resolution was adopted:

> Resolution II The President and members of the Commission deeply mourn the death of Dr.P.C. Chakravarty, Prof.N.R.Khadgawat, Prof.P.K.Karunakara Menon, Mr.Wayne C.Grover, Dr.Y.K.Deshpande, Prof. M.Habib, Dr.Tarasankar Banerjee, and Shri Parmanand Acharya and place on record the valuable services rendered by them to the Commission as its members. The Commission also deeply mourn the death of Shri K.Kalappan. Resolved that these condolences and deep sense of sympathy of the Commission with the members of the bereaved families be conveyed to them.

3. Discussion on the Secretary's Report

The house thereafter took up discussion on the report read by the Secretary at the Inaugural Session of the Commission. Prof.Sri Ram Sharma moved that the report be accepted. Professors P.L.Mehra and Fauja Singh suggested that some provision may be made for hostel accommodation for scholars in the annexe building of the National Archives of India. Dr.Prasad explained that the construction underway is the first phase of the Annexe building. He had already

discussed this requirement with the engineers but was told that the proposed wing was hardly sufficient for the stack area etc. Moreover, residential accommodation would not be feasible on the Rajpath side of the annexe. This question could, however, be considered at the time of the second phase of the construction of the Annexe. Prof. Mehra, however, wanted that his suggestion regarding hostel accommodation may be kept in view.

Dr. Amba Prasad wanted to know what action was being taken on the report of the Mujeeb Committee appointed by the Government of India. Dr. Prasad explained that this Committee was set up on the recommendation of the Estimates Committee of the Lok Sabha. The recommendations made by the Mujeeb Committee are receiving the attention of the Government.

Shri S.B. Bhat thereupon stated that National Archives of India should give financial assistance for the purchase of private records. Shri S. Singarajan wanted that the Government of India should allocate more funds for the development of State Archives. He also stated that a sum of Rs.5 lakhs, allocated by the State Government for development of Tamil Nadu State Archives, was not so far released. Shri T.S. Sinha referred to the discussion at the Patna Session of the Commission in 1968 to the effect that the Centre should provide funds for the development of State Archives. The Chairman explained that now the National Development Council makes block grants to the States, and not for particular items. However, the attention of the State Governments could be drawn to the need for providing adequate funds for the State Archives.

It was also suggested that the Secretary's report should be as brief as possible and only touch on the salient features of the Development of Archives in the country. Prof. O.P.Bhatnagar moved a resolution on the Secretary's report, which was approved, but it was felt that since this was a substantial resolution it should follow the adoption of the report. The House thereupon adopted the Secretary's report, after which Prof. Bhatnagar's Resolution was passed.

> Resolution III. The Indian Historical Records Commission places on record its appreciation of the steps taken by the National Archives of India during the last two years for expediting the compilation of reference media to the various series of the records in its custody. But, as the volume of records for which the reference media has to be prepared is very large, the Government of India is urged to sanction adequate staff for this essential aspect of archives administration. Similar programmes may be taken up by State Archives Departments also which face the same problem.

4. Review of action taken on the previous resolutions of the Commission

The report of the Secretary on the subject (vide conspectus at pp.79-122) was taken up for discussion.

Resolutions of the 37th Session, 1966

With reference to Resolution II dealing with prevention of migration of archives and other materials of historical and cultural value to foreign countries, the members wanted to know the reasons for the delay in the introduction of the necessary legislation in this behalf.

Dr. Prasad informed the Members that the matter was under the active consideration of the Government. Dr. H. L. Gupta wanted to know if "records" could be included among "antiquities". The Chairman explained that this was being considered by the Law Ministry. Shri S. Singarajan wanted that a Committee should be set up in each State to prevent the migration of records.

Resolutions of the 38th Session, 1967

With reference to Resolution V regarding liberalisation of rules governing access to records, Prof. H. L. Gupta pointed out that the State Governments were too conservative in their policy of scrutiny of excerpts taken by accredited scholars from their records. Reference was particularly made to the Government of Tamil Nadu. Shri S. Singarajan, Director, Tamil Nadu Archives, stated that the position had been stated correctly, and suggested that the Chairman might use his good offices with the State Governments for the liberalisation of rules. The Chairman promised to do so. Dr. Gopal Krishna wanted to know the position in other States. The Chairman suggested that the Secretary of the Commission might collect complete information from all the State Archives Departments with regard to their Research Rules, and supply the same to the members within a period of three months.

On Resolution IX regarding Family Papers of former Orissa Princes, the Chairman informed the members that he had already tried with a few ex-rulers of Orissa, but has not yet succeeded. He would try to negotiate with them further.

Regarding Resolution X on records with Business Houses, Dr. Gopal Krishna wanted to know if any further progress was made. The Secretary informed that the matter was being pursued with the parties concerned. The Chairman felt that planned action in such a matter was rather difficult, but the efforts should be continued.

With reference to Resolution XI regarding provision of more funds for Regional Records Survey Committees, Shri S. Singarajan stated that the Commission's resolutions being only recommendatory, it would be better if the Chairman could use his good offices to pursuade the State Governments to place adequate funds at the disposal of the Regional Records Survey Committees. The Chairman promised to consider what could be done.

Regarding Resolution XIV on University Archives, the Secretary, Dr. S.N. Prasad, informed that in addition to what had been reported, Aligarh University had also set up an Archives Cell manned by a qualified Archivist.

Resolutions of the 39th Session, 1968

With reference to Resolution VI regarding documents of Indian interest in West-Asia, the Secretary informed that further information was being collected about the records of Indian interest in West Asia. Shri F.M. Hassnain suggested that if a few State Directors of Archives could go to Russia along with the Director, National Archives of India, in connection with the forthcoming International Congress on Archives being held in Moscow in 1972, this team could locate more records of Indian interest in that country.

Dr. Prasad stated that National Archives of India had already acquired under an earlier Indo-Soviet Cultural Programme a few rolls of microfilm copies of records available in the Central Archives, U.S.S.R., etc.

The Chairman, thereupon, informed that the eight volumes of the catalogue of Persian Manuscripts in the Institute of Oriental Studies, Tashkent, were available with the Aligarh University. However, so far as he was aware, there were no records of Indian interest in Tashkent. Some documents were available in Armenia. Quite a few reports of the then British Agent-at-Cairo now in the P.R.O., London, also had relevance to these records.

Dr. H. L. Gupta referred to the discussion regarding transfer of Residency records with the various State Archives to the National Archives of India, and pointed out that some of these were still lying at Nagpur. The Chairman suggested that members of the Commission should send a report to the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission on the Residency records which might be still lying with the States.

Resolutions of the 40th Session, 1970

With reference to Resolution II regarding access to the old records of the State Bank of India, Dr. S. N. Prasad further informed the members that delay in throwing open the non-current records of the State Bank of India was due to the fact that these were presently being used for the compilation of the Bank's history. Efforts to implement the Resolution would continue.

On Resolution III regarding the setting up of a Standing Committee of the Commission, in the discussion that followed, Dr. P. L. Mehra reiterated the necessity and urgency of having a Standing Committee of the Commission. The Chairman stated that the financial implications and other aspects of the proposal would be studied and suitable action would be taken.

In the discussion on the action taken on Resolution IV regarding Development of Archives, Dr. Gopal Krishna suggested that, in addition to photo-duplication and microfilming, facilities for Xerography of records should also be provided by the National Archives of India and the State Archives.

On resolution V regarding publication of documents bearing on Partition and Transfer of Power, the members felt that the National Archives of India should bring out the proposed publication on the records pertaining to Partition and Transfer of Power at the earliest, as the India Office had already brought out two volumes. The members were critical of the stand taken by the Ministry of External Affairs against throwing open the records upto 1947, particularly because the India Office had already published two volumes of the relevant records on the transfer of power. Dr. S. N. Prasad informed members that further liberalisation was under active consideration. Shri B. K. Basu, Director, Historical Division, Ministry of External Affairs, informed the Commission that his Ministry had allowed access to their records upto 1942. However, the Ministry had yet to decide about the records relating to Partition and Transfer of Power.

Decision on this be taken after consulting prominent historians. The Chairman agreed that a Committee consisting of prominent historians should be set up to suggest declassification of these records. The Director, Historical Division, and Director, National Archives of India, might take early steps in this behalf. The Chairman also suggested that, in the meantime, necessary information with regard to these records in the custody of the State Governments might also be collected by the Secretary.

In reply to the discussion on Resolution VI, regarding enactment of law on archives and implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on Archival Legislation, and also on the possibility of having one archival law for the whole of India, the Chairman stated that he would study the entire problem and see what could be done. In the meantime, Archival Policy Resolution would be passed at an early date and its copies would be supplied to the State Governments for necessary action. The position should be reviewed at the next Session of the Commission. The second part of the Resolution was already implemented with the Minister being present throughout the Business Meeting.

With reference to Resolution IX, that State Archives should dispense with the scrutiny of excerpts, members regretted that most of the State Governments were not implementing the above Resolution. The Chairman remarked that under the Policy Resolution on Union Archives, rules governing access to records would be framed. He hoped that the State Governments to whom copies of the Policy Resolution would be supplied, would also agree to make necessary changes in their Historical Research Rules. If necessary, the position could be reviewed by the Commission.

On Resolution X, regarding preparation of indexes of the Portuguese and Malayalam records in English, Mrs. Padma Ramachandran, representing the Government of Kerala, informed the members that some extra staff had been appointed by the State Government to expedite the preparation of indexes to these records. Dr. Gune confirmed that the Portuguese records in Goa Archives were being indexed, though at a slow pace due to paucity of staff.

Resolution XIII, that State Governments should transfer the records relating to National Movement to the State Archives, was then taken up for discussion. The Secretary stated that, as already discussed, the rules to be framed by the States following the Policy Resolution should contain a provision to this effect.

Regarding Resolution XIV, on setting up of Mobile Microfilming Units by the National Archives of India for microfilming of private papers, the Secretary further informed the members that the National Archives of India had already taken up the expansion of the photo-duplication facilities. Efforts are being made to procure a mobile camera. Necessary staff was being provided. The question whether the microfilming service to all the Regional Records Survey Committees could be provided free, would have to be considered further.

With reference to Resolution XV, that National Archives of India should procure Annual Administration Reports published by the State Governments, Professor Sri Ram Sharma, Dr. Amba Prasad and other members reiterated the need for the National Archives of India to have the Annual Administration Reports of all the States and other bodies mentioned in the resolution.

Dr.Prasad explained the latest position. The Chairman suggested that the Director of Archives, Government of India, might prepare a list of the Reports that had started coming to the National Archives of India and might continue efforts to acquire the remaining reports also.

Resolution XVI, regarding depositing by the universities of copies of the theses for Ph.D. Degrees at the National Archives of India, then came up for discussion. The various methods which could be adopted by the Universities to implement the resolution without putting a further burden on research scholars in submitting more copies of their theses, were discussed. Dr.Prasad expressed the view that better results would follow if the members of the Indian Historical Records Commission could pursuade the more important universities to cooperate in the matter as far as possible. This was agreed to.

5. Resolutions by Members

1. Transfer of records of Viceroys and Governors to the National Archives of India and State Archives Offices

Resolution by Dr.H.L.Gupta

Resolved that, as a preliminary step to the making of Viceregal records and the records of the Governors upto 1947 available for historical research, the former be placed in the National Archives of India and the latter in the Central Record Offices of the States concerned.

Secretary's Note

As regards the Central Government, most of the Secretariat Departments which were in existence prior to Transfer of Power

have transferred their records upto 1947 to the National Archives of India. The records of the Viceroy's Secretariat have not, however, been retired to the National Archives of India.

Proceedings

As a result of the detailed discussion which followed about the nature and whereabouts of these series, the resolution was withdrawn by Dr.Gupta. The Chairman, however, suggested that the Director of Archives, Government of India, and the State Directors of Archives, might try to find out the position regarding the records in the Rashtrapati Bhawan and Raj Bhawans.

(2)(a) Weeding of records in the Central and State Archives by trained Archivists

Resolution by Dr.H.L.Gupta

In the interest of completeness of official records of historical value,it is resolved that (i) the weeding of records at the various sources by untrained persons be stopped; and (ii) the weeding may either be done in the various Departments with the help of trained Archivists or in the Central and State Archives where the records are to be placed ultimately.

Secretary's Note

In this connection, it may be noted that the weeding Sub-Committee of the Local Records Sub-Committee(1958) and the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960) have recommended that the work of appraisal should be entrusted to "specially qualified Departmental Record Officers". (Para 39 of Report)

Proceedings

Dr.Prasad explained that the task of appraising the records was a highly technical one, and was considered at length by the Committee on Archival Legislation. The Committee recommended that the final review should be conducted in association with the National Archives of India. While emphasising the role of the archivist in the appraisal process, it stated - "The archivists are the persons most in contact with the research workers and their knowledge of what the latter wish to consult can be of great use in exercising the historical criterion". After some discussion, the Commission adopted the following resolution:

> Resolution IV Resolved that in the interest of completeness of official records of historical value, weeding of records at the various levels by untrained persons be stopped.

(b) Deputation of Technicians of the History Departments of the Universities to assist Government Departments in weeding their records

Resolution by Dr.M.A.Muttalib:

'Resolved that the Assistant Technicians attached to the History Departments of the Universities may be deputed to the Government Departments to help them in the Weeding out of these Departmental records from time to time.

Secretary's Note

It appears that the point is substantially covered in Resolution IV of the 40th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission (1970) which requested the Government of India and the State Governments to associate scholars in the framing of policies concerning selection of records for permanent preservation. The resolution was forwarded to the Government of India and the State Governments for consideration (Vide Conspectus, Paper No.1 of the Agenda).

Proceedings

The above resolution was not taken up for discussion in the absence of the mover.

(3) Research Fellowship Scheme for State Archives

Resolution by Dr.M.A.Muttalib

Resolved that the scheme of granting fellowships to research students adopted by the State Archives, Government of Andhra Pradesh, may also be implemented by the Archives of other States so as to help research in administrative, social and economic fields.

Secretary's Note

While examining the Research Fellowship Scheme of the National Archives of India, which was in existence then, the Committee on Archival Legislation was of the opinion that the Archive Repository was not a suitable institution for the purpose, which could assume such responsibility only at the expense of its normal obligations. (Para 161 of the Report). The Research Fellowships which Andhra Pradesh Government has instituted in the State Archives to promote historical research on modern history of Andhra Pradesh and the Deccan, include 5 full-time Fellowships of Rs.300/- each and 5 part-time stipends of Rs.125/- each.

(4) Compilation of classified lists of documents by State Archives

Resolution by Dr.M.A.Muttalib

Resolved that classified lists of documents should be prepared and published as early as possible by the State Archives. Moreover, the services of the University teachers of the History Departments may be utilised for the organisation of the Archives.

(5) Access to confidential records to University Teachers.

Resolution by Dr.M.A. Muttalib

Resolved that the existing procedure for the supply of confidential records to University teachers may be streamlined with a view to minimise delay.

Proceedings

Resolution at serial numbers (3), (4), & (5) were not taken up due to the absence of the mover.

(6) Administration and Management of State Archives Offices

(a) Control and Administration by Universities

Resolution by Dr.Bakhshish Singh Nijjar

Archives and the Record Repositories should not be located in the premises of the Universities.

Explanatory Note

There have been in the past various attempts by certain Universities to secure the control of State Archives in order to conduct researches on the archival material. The Archives are in fact State Repositories of records created by different branches of State Administration. All the non-current records of permanent nature relating to every institution of the State are housed in the State Archives for their being preserved in good condition.

As the Universities are autonomous bodies, these records, which are public records, concerning every branch of State Administration, should not in any case be put under their jurisdiction.

The public and research scholars make use of the archival material for their personal ends. Private individuals apply for the issue of certified copies of documents in connection with their cases and the Government agencies also ask for original files for the dispoal of cases. Similarly other individuals visit the Archives for different purposes. research scholars other than those attached to the Universities also utilise the material deposited in the Archives. People from all walks of life, and foreigners too, come to the State Archives to have a look at the cultural life of the people of a certain age, in the same way as they go to an exhibition of paintings, sketches, contemporary books and manuscripts. The State Archives as an institution is not wholly meant for research scholars of the Universities; they are of equal value to the general public.

Moreover, a University is not at all a safe place for archival material, in view of the unrest prevailing amongst students these days. They resort to strikes on some ground or the other and consequently great damage is done to University property. This unrest among students is well manifestednot only in India but all the world over. Hence, to place archival material in the custody of a University is not at all advisable. These records should, therefore, remain in the State Archives directly controlled by the Government. Necessary facilities should, however, be extended to the research scholars coming from the Universities.

Proceedings

In the discussion that followed, Members emphasised that the sentiments of the proposed Resolution were voiced by the Commission in its 40th session in connection with the Mysore State Archives. But the present Resolution was purely negative and hypothetical. After discussing the various pros and cons of the problem, the Commission rejected the resolution.

(b) Need for uniform system of management and administration

Resolution by Dr.M.N.Das

Resolved that a uniform system of management and administration be adopted for all the State Archives of India with specific directives and regulations for archival affairs.

Explanatory Note

The sizes of different State Archives may remain different, but the utility of a uniform system of principles and functions, with a common administrative pattern for all of them, cannot be denied. At present, smaller Archives have not only an adequate, not to speak of trained staff, but do not have a precise idea of the exact functions expected of those. Without uniform rules and regulations, the expected duties and functions remain more or less matters of secondary importance. The utility and value of Archives are also not properly understood by the public when the Archives themselves have no definite functional programmes. Moreover, without regulations to that effect, the gulf between the researcher and the Archives remains wide.

Secretary's Note

The Committee on Archival Legislation has provided the guidelines in respect of all aspects of archival administration, and these are equally applicable to the Central and all the State Governments. (Paras 74-77 and 83-84).

Proceedings

The resolution was not discussed due to the absence of the mover.

(7) Responsibility of State Directors with regard to State Records

(a) Director of Archives to be responsible for preservation etc. of all Government records

Resolution by Dr.Bakhshish Singh Nijjar

All the Government records with the State should be looked after, with regard to their preservation etc. by the Director of Archives concerned.

Explanatory Note

During the survey of records both at the District and Divisional level in the State, it was noticed that the condition of the records is very deplorable and proper attention is not paid to the care of these records by the offices concerned. No arrangement exists in the offices for the preservation of records and consequently their condition is deteriorating day by day. The archival wealth of the nation is thus being wasted for want of proper care.

It would, therefore, be in the fitness of things if these records are placed in the custody of the State Archives so far as their preservation is concerned, which is in a position to render great service to the records by repairing

and rehabilitating them. By the application of modern scientific techniques ∠ life of the moth-eaten, brittle and damaged documents/records, can be prolonged and they can be saved from ravages of time for their proper use by posterity.

Secretary's Note.

In this connection, attention is drawn to Resolution VII of 38th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission (1967), which recommended transfer of District records which were more than 30 years old to the State Archives, and also to Resolution XIII of the same Session urging the State Governments to declare their Directors of Archives to be the inspecting authority for the non-current records of the State Offices at all levels.

(b) Director of Archives be declared as the inspecting authority for State records at all levels.

Resolution by Thiru S. Singarajan

Resolved that the State Governments may be requested to take early steps to declare the Director of State Archives as an inspecting authority for the non-current records of State Offices at all levels, as well as of local bodies such as Municipalities, Zilla Parishads and the like in the States.

Explanatory Note

A Resolution requesting the State Governments on the subject was passed at 38th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at the Jadavpur University, Calcutta (Resolution XIII), but it has not had the desired effect.

Secretary's Note

As regards Resolution XIII of the 38th Session (1967), the State Governments of Rajasthan, Kerala, West Bengal, U.P. and Punjab and the Administration of Goa, Daman & Diu have accepted the recommendation contained therein, while the Governments of Mysore, Orissa and Haryana have stated that they are accepting it in principle.

Proceedings

The resolution at 7(a) and (b) were formally moved respectively by Dr.Nijjar and Thiru Singarajan. As the main purpose of both the above resolutions were similar, the suggestion of the chairman for linking the two in a single resolution was accepted and the following resolution was adopted:

> Resolution V The Commission is of the view that it is imperative to take all necessary steps to ensure the proper maintenance and preservation of all Public records in the States, whether current, semi-current or non-current. The State Governments are, therefore, requested to implement urgently the recommendations already made by the Commission(vide resolution VII and XIII of the 38th Session) and (i) transfer all District records more than 30 years old to the control of the State Archives, and (ii) declare their Directors of State Archives to be inspecting authority for the non-current records of the State Offices at all levels, as also of the local bodies viz. Municipalities, Zilla Parishads etc. in the State.

(8) Financial assistance by the Government of India to set up State Archives

Resolution by Mysore Government

The Indian Historical Records Commission resolves that the Government of India take immediate steps to extend cent-per-cent financial assistance and enable the State Governments to set up full fledged Records Offices where there are no such offices so far.

Explanatory Note

It is imperative to establish a fully equipped Record Office in every State where this is not in existence for collecting records and historical documents both from private and public sources. Having collected, they have to be preserved scientifically for the sake of historical research etc.

The nature of private records is such that they are likely to be lost for posterity for various reasons. Hence the urgency.

Secretary's Note

State Government Records are not a Central subject. The responsibility for their housing, maintenance and preservation is vested in the State Governments concerned and expenses thereon should normally be borne by them. Attention is invited in this connection to Resolution II of the 39th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission (1968), which recommended that the State Governments should include 'Development of Archives' as a Plan item in their respective Budgets. This was reiterated in Resolution IV of the 40th Session (1970). If these recommendations are properly implemented, a certain proportion of Central aid would be available for the development of State Archival Repositories.

Proceedings.

The resolution was formally moved by Dr. Seshadri, but in view of the position explained in the Secretary's note, the proposal was dropped.

(9) Compilation by the Record Offices of lists of their publications and reprinting of out-of-print books

Resolution by Thiru S. Singarajan

Resolved that the Record Offices in India should take early steps to compile lists of their publications and reprint such of the publications as are out of print and are still in demand from research institutions and research students.

Explanatory Note

Lists of such publications are very useful for reference purposes and it is the practice with some Archives to append such lists to their publications for information of intending purchasers. Some of the valuable publications have been out of print for decades and the cause of historical research will be furthered by reprinting revised editions of the same.

A resolution on this subject was passed at the 34th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Trivandrum (Resolution VI) but it has not had the desired effect.

Secretary's Note

Resolution VI referred to was passed by the Research and Publication Committee at its 27th meeting held at New Delhi in September 1958, which recommended that the Record Offices in India should compile lists of their publications and reprint such of them as are out of print. It will be worthwhile to reiterate this resolution. ~~as no reply was received from the State Governments~~. It should also be mentioned, however, that large stocks of many other archival publications are lying unsold, and Governments would feel encouraged to reprint only if sufficient demand is assured.

Proceedings

The resolution was formally moved by Thiru Singarajan. Dr. Prasad informed that the National Archives of India got re-printed its old publications, by photo-off-set process. By an arrangement with the National Archives of India, a publishing House in Delhi was also reprinting some old publications, and deposited two copies of each reprint with the National Archives. In view of the cost involved in re-printing these works, the members discussed the possibilities of getting a limited number of copies of such publications printed by other latest methods, such as Xerography. The Chairman, thereupon, suggested that the Secretary might obtain expert advice whether it was financially feasible to bring out 100-150 copies of the important publications for which there was a demand, by any of the latest devices.

The following amended resolution was accordingly passed:

> Resolution VI The Commission reiterates its recommendation earlier made in Resolution VI of the Research and Publication Committee at its 27th meeting, and urges that Archives Departments in India should take early steps to compile lists of their old publications which are still in demand and try to get limited number of their copies reprinted.

(10) Implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on Archival Legislation

Resolution by Thiru S. Singarajan

Resolved that early steps be taken for implementing the recommendations of the Committee set up in 1959 by the Government of India for Archival Legislation.

Explanatory Note

Resolutions for introducing necessary legislation were passed at the 37th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at New Delhi in 1966, [illegible] the 39th Session,

held in 1968 at Patna, and the 40th Session held in 1970 at Madras, but they have not had the desired effect.

Secretary's Note

The Government of India have taken action on many of the recommendations of the Archival Legislation Committee. A detailed statement indicating the position has been given as an Appendix to the Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XXXVIII (1967). In a number of cases, the actual implementation of the recommendations has been slow, or held up for financial and other reasons. It would be good if individual items requiring urgent attention are singled out and appropriate recommendations made to Governments and other bodies concerned.

As regards the question of legislation on Central Government records, the subject is under the active consideration of the Government of India. Every effort is being made to expedite matters, and it is expected that the question will be placed before the Cabinet at an early date.

Proceedings

In view of the fact that the above topic was thoroughly discussed by the members while discussing action taken on resolution VI of the 40th Session, Shri Singarajan withdrew the resolution.

(11) Preservation of official and private papers of important public men.

(a) Resolution by Shri V.G.Khobrekar

Resolved that this Commission recommends to the Government of India that the personal records created by the

renowned political leaders of India and eminent personalities in the social and educational fields and the very important persons of the Central and the State Ministries have historical value, and should remain in the custody of the respective State Archives to which they legitimately belong, and no other agency be allowed to acquire them.

Explanatory Note

It is observed that the valuable personal records of political leaders and the V.I.Ps. (Ministers, Deputy Ministers etc.) are taken away from the place to which they legitimately belong, thus depriving the State Archives of their legitimate right on such records. It is, therefore, desirable to see that the personal records of famous political leaders and the V.I.Ps. should remain in the custody of the Archives where they have been created and they should not be removed elsewhere, without their concurrence.

Proceedings:

In view of the implications arising out of the proposal, and because the property rights of private individuals were involved, Shri Khobrekar withdrew the motion.

(b) Resolution by Dr.M.N.Das

Resolved that a standing directive be issued by the National Archives of India to all men of public distinction not to destroy their private papers and official or demi-official correspondence, but to provide for their transfer to the Archives for preservation during or after their lifetime, with permission for their use after a lapse of time.

Explanatory Note

Men of distinction in different walks of life are not necessarily and not always aware of the value of their private papers. They destroy much of their useful correspondence in their lifetime, or leave them for destruction by their descendants. A sense of value has to be created among our leaders, scientists and men of letters regarding their activities as preserved in their own writings.

Proceedings:

The resolution was not taken up due to the absence of Dr. Das.

(12) Records of Religious Institutions

(a) Access to records of religious institutions

Resolution by U.P. Government

This Commission recommends that since the authorities of temples, gurdwaras, churches, khankahs, waqfs etc. possess important documents, they may be requested by Government to allow bonafide Research Scholars to consult those documents for their research purposes, and such scholars wherever possible may help these authorities, if necessary, to prepare their lists voluntarily.

Explanatory Note

Many religious institutions have in their possession old historical documents which are useful for reconstructing the history of the land. It is necessary to induce them at the Government level to open them for research. In this connection the State Government Departments dealing with these institutions could issue the necessary orders for executing this resolution.

State Archives and Departments of History of the Universities in their respective States could be of help in the listing. Such materials will be very useful for the National Register of Records.

Proceedings

Dr.K.P.Srivastava, Director, U.P. State Archives moved the motion. The house, after discussing the slow progress made in listing the records of various religious institutions for the National Register Programme, adopted the following resolution:

> Resolution VII This Commission appeals to the concerned authorities of Temples, Gurdwaras, Churches, Khankahs, Waqfs, etc. to allow bonafide research scholars to consult their documents for research purposes, and the scholars who are allowed access to these records may, if necessary, voluntarily prepare the lists of these records.

(b) Acquisition of manuscripts and papers in the possession of religious institutions

Resolution by Prof.O.P.Bhatnagar

Resolved that efforts be made to secure such documents concerning churches, mosques, and temples as may be helpful in throwing new light on social and religious history.

Proceedings

After the resolution was formally moved by Dr. Bhatnagar, Dr.Prasad explained its various implications. After some discussion the following modified resolution was passed:

> Resolution VIII This Commission appeals to the authorities maintaining the records of the temples, mathas, churches, mosques, gurdwaras etc. to ensure their proper preservation, and if possible, to deposit these documents with the various Archives or Learned Institutions for safe custody.

(c) Microfilming by the National Archives of India of the records of the Sringeri Mutt

Resolution by Prof. G.S.Dikshit

In view of the fact that the records of the Sringeri Mutt will throw light on the relations of the Mutt with Mysore, Nizam, Marathas and other dynasties of the times, and also on the religious, social and economic conditions during the last two centuries, and therefore, are of national importance, the Indian Historical Records Commission recommends that these records, known, locally as Kaditas, should be microfilmed by the National Archives of India and thus be made available to research students in Delhi, Bangalore and other places.

Explanatory Note

Last year the Indian Historical Records Commission passed a resolution to the effect that the mobile microfilm unit of the National Archives of India should be made available for microfilming records of national importance in different parts of India. The present resolution is in accordance with that resolution. The Government of Mysore is being persuaded to give all facilities to the National Archives in this matter.

Secretary's Note

Recently the Governor of Mysore has requested the Union Minister for Education and Youth Services to get the records of Sringeri Mutt microfilmed by the National Archives of India. The question is under consideration.

Proceedings

As a result of the information given by the Secretary, Dr. Dikshit withdrew the resolution. The Chairman, however, stated that progress made in this connection may be reported by the Secretary at the next Session of the Commission.

(13) Creation of Department of Archives in the Universities and facilities for Archival training

Resolution by Prof. O.P.Bhatnagar

Resolved further that the Indian Historical Records Commission should recommend to the Government, the Universities and the University Grants Commission for the provision of facilities for Archival training and for the creation of Department of Archives along with History.

Secretary's Note

Resolution XIV of the 38th Session (1967) recommended that the Universities be requested to entrust the care of their records to officers who had training in Archives Keeping and also to maintain them on scientific lines as a separate entity. This was reiterated by the Commission at its 40th Session (1970) and the Universities were addressed again on the subject. The action taken on these Resolutions is given in the Conspectus (Annexure).

Proceedings

The Secretary, Dr.Prasad explained that National Archives of India was already conducting a One Year Diploma Course in Archives keeping and a plan was being finalised for conducting Short Term Record Management Course as suggested by the Estimates Committee of the 4th Lok Sabha and the recommendations made by the Committee of Officers appointed by the Department of Administrative Reforms, Government of India in 1969. Dr.Prasad stated that the problem had twofold bearing; firstly, the availability of arrangements for training and secondly, the scope of absorbing the trained Archivists. The Members by and large agreed with the above views.

One of the important suggestions received favourably was to increase the number of stipends for trainees at the National Archives of India, instead of starting many centres. The Chairman agreed with the above approach and suggested that a survey could be made as to the number of trained Archivists required in the next ten years. He was sure that it was not possible for the University Grants Commission to entertain any new proposals during the current Plan period. Accordingly the following modified resolution was adopted:

> Resolution IX The Commission recommends that the Universities may provide facilities for archival training, during the 5th Five Year Plan period, if the University Grants Commission could provide financial assistance for the purpose.

(14) Trained Archivists for development of Archival Wings in the Universities

Resolution by Dr.M.N.Das

Resolved that the Universities be directed to include at least one trained Archivist in the staff of the Post-Graduate Department of History for development of Archival Wing and research activities.

Explanatory Note

The functions of University Departments being not merely teaching but also research, some trained personnal to assist the members of the staff and the scholars in research work are necessary, and an Archivist is one such person. He will remain in charge of the Archival Wing, collect archival material, train scholars in archival knowledge and establish liaison between the Department and the Archives.

Secretary's Note

Resolution XIV of the 38th Session (1967) recommended inter alia that the Universities be requested to entrust the

care of their records to officers who had training in Archives Keeping. A number of Universities have welcomed the resolution and assured that they would take necessary steps. Since, however, many had failed to appreciate the intent and purpose of the resolution, the question was raised again at the 40th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission in February 1970. As recommended by it, the Universities have been addressed again on the subject by the Secretary. A proposal urging the Universities to set up a model Archival Cell has been sent to the Universities and University Grants Commission by the Secretary.

Proceedings

The resolution was not taken up due to the absence of the mover.

(15) Extension of microfilm facilities by the National Archives of India to Universities and Libraries

Resolution by Prof. O.P.Bhatnagar

Resolved that the National Archives of India should set up microfilm units, the services of which should be made available to the Universities and Libraries.

Secretary's Note

Resolution XIV of the 40th Session (1970) recommended that the National Archives of India might set up adequate mobile microfilm units to take microfilm copies of private papers in different parts of India at the request of Regional Records Survey Committees or otherwise. The decision of the Government of India, to whom the resolution has been forwarded, is awaited.

The National Archives of India has a small Microfilm Unit which undertakes microfilming of only such records as are considered to be of national importance and in which the Department itself is interested.

Proceedings

Dr. Prasad informed the members about the very limited capacity of the Microfilming Unit of the National Archives of India and the great difficulties in the proposed extension of microfilming services to the Universities and Learned Institutions. In the light of the clarification, Prof. Bhatnagar agreed to withdraw the resolution.

(16) Access to scholars to pre-1925 records relating to Kashmir in the National Archives of India

Resolution by Shri F.M.Hassnain

The Commission resolves that all pre-1925 records relating to Kashmir, in the custody of the National Archives of India, be thrown open for research to all bonafide Research Scholars without any restriction.

Explanatory Note

The issue regarding throwing open of Kashmir records was taken up by the Archival Legislation Committee, which recommended that, as all Kashmir records were open for research without any restriction at London and Lahore, there was no necessity to keep them sealed at the National Archives of India.

Secretary's Note

The observations of the Committee on Archival Legislation (1960) were as follows:

> "As regards the records relating to Kashmir the present restrictions are based upon some misunderstanding. The fact is that the Government do not have a separate series of records relating to

Kashmir. The so-called Kashmir records really consist of correspondence which passed between the Political Officer in charge of Kashmir on the one hand and the Supreme Government on the other, and these are recorded along with similar correspondence relating to other States in India in the same volumes of official proceedings. Thus to put a ban on the use of the Kashmir records is virtually to prevent the use of any records of the late Foreign and Political Department, which cannot certainly be the intention of the Government of India.

Even if it be the intention to screen all materials relating to Kashmir irrespective of any chronological limit, it is not clear how that intention is going to be realised. Political relations with the State of Jammu and Kashmir used to be conducted by the Government of India through the agency of the Punjab Government from 1849 to 1877 when the Political charge was transferred to a Special Officer (designated since 1885 'Resident at Kashmir'). Thus a full set of all pre-1878 records relating to Kashmir are available among the Punjab records located in Lahore. Moreover, the India Office (Commonwealth Relations Office) has in its custody a complete set of Foreign and Political Department Proceedings which embody almost every document on Kashmir that Government of India may have in their possession relating to the period before 1947. There are no possible means by which access to these records in London or Lahore can be prevented." (Para 82).

According to the National Archives of India Historical Research Rules, the records of the Government of India relating to Kashmir upto 1913 only are open for research at present.

Proceedings

The resolution was formally moved by Shri Hussnain, Shri Basu, Director, Historical Division, Ministry of External Affairs explained that these restrictions were also applicable to the records of other frontier regions as well as

Nepal and Bhutan etc. However, the Ministry of External Affairs have been granting access to scholars on individual requests. After some discussions, the following resolution was passed:

> Resolution X. The Commission suggests that all pre-1925 records relating to Kashmir, in the custody of the National Archives of India, be thrown open for research to all bonafide research scholars without any restrictions.

(17) Publication in a consolidated form of all the papers published in the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission

Resolution by Shri S.C.De.

Resolved that research papers published in the proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission be compiled and published on chronological basis for the benefit of Research Scholars.

Explanatory Note

A large number of research papers have been read in different sessions of the Indian Historical Records Commission and published in the Proceedings. These papers throw new light on many aspects of history which need to be modified on the basis of them. Since a few scholars have the opportunity to see proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission, they can not be benefitted by these research papers. But if the research papers are compiled chronoligically and regionwise and published in one or more volumes, it would be easy for scholars to utilise them for their research purposes. The Indian History Congress have already brought out such volumes, and they are found very useful and handy for reference.

Secretary's Note

There will be more than four hundred papers which were published in the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission. If there is sufficient demand, private firms should be willing to publish them in book form; if not, then it means another Government subsidised publication.

Proceedings

In the absence of Shri De, Shri M.P.Das, Superintendent, Orissa State Archives, who was present, sought the permission of the Chair to move the resolution, but in view of a large number of resolutions for which the Chairman had already received requests from the members, consideration on the above resolution was put off.

(18) Setting up of National and State Institutes of Historical Research Studies

Resolution by Shri P.Sitapati Rao

In view of the importance of historical research in this country, it is recommended that each State Government consider the setting up of a State Institute of Historical Research Studies with a view to coordinate the research work of the various Governmental Departments of the State and Central Governments, the Universities and the other research organisations undertaking such research in each State. Such an Institute, along with the establishment of a State Council of Historical Research, would promote Historical Research Studies and enable the State Institutes to make valuable contributions to the history of India and its people.

The Government of India may also consider the setting up of a National Institute of Historical Research with a Council of Historical Research at the national Level to fully coordinate, organise, guide and undertake historical research studies and programmes at the State and national levels.

Explanatory Note

That there are several gaps in our present knowledge of the history of India is too well known a fact to require repetition. After the formation of the linguistic States, there has been a widely felt urge among the people in the States of India to acquaint themselves with the history and culture of the various languages and linquistic groups in this country. Historical research studies conducted in a proper and objective manner both at the regional and national levels to meet the aspirations of the United People of India will also help in the recognition of the unity of the people of India and further the cause of national integration.

Unfortunately, however, the institutional foundation for the conduct of historical research studies in this country is weak at present. Such studies are not only desultory, uncoordinated and poorly organised but also lag behind for want of adequate funds and Government patronage. Thus for example at the State level, several departments such as the State Departments of Archives, Archaeology, the Central Department of Archaeology, the Universities in the State and here and there a research society or organisation undertake historical studies at present with no sense of purpose, direction or proper coordination. There is thus

urgent need for a properly equipped and adequately staffed and financed State Institute of Historical Research Studies at the State level.

It is, therefore, suggested that the Indian Historical Records Commission strongly recommend the setting up of a State Institute of Historical Research Studies in every State, under the guidance of a State Council of Historical Studies Research to further and promote research studies on the history of India and the Indian people.

Similarly there is a case for a National Institute of Historical Studies to be established on the analogy of the National Scientific Laboratories. Research in the Social Sciences is as important as in the Fundamental and Applied Sciences, and Historical Research Studies are of paramount importance in transitional India at present, in that they would go a long way in promoting the cultural renaissance of the country and furthering National Integration. The National Institute as well as the State Institutes would be controlled by a Council of Historical Research at a National level to coordinate, organise, guide and undertake historical studies and programmes at the State and National levels.

Proceedings

The above resolution was not taken up for discussion due to the absence of the mover.

The following Resolutions were then moved one after the other with the permission of the Chair:-

(19) Resolution by Dr. A. R. Kulkarni

Resolution XI. The Commission places on record its appreciation of the effective and energetic steps taken by its Secretary in implementing some of its important recommendations, such as those concerning the preparation of the Manual of Archives, and the publication of records pertaining to Partition and Transfer of Power, and the Compilation of reference media. It also approves of the policy of issuing cyclostyled publications, particularly the reference media to records, with a view to fecilitating research. Similar steps may also be taken by the State Directors of Archives.

The Resolution was passed with acclaim.

(20) Resolution by Dr. Fauja Singh

Resolution XII Keeping in view the enormous problems created by the evergrowing bulk of records, the Commission appreciates the lead presently given by the National Archives of India and the Department of Administrative Reforms, Government of India, in the sphere of management of the records of the Union Government and their time-bound appraisal. It also notes with satisfaction the steps taken by some State Governments for weeding of their non-essential records. The Commission urges all those State Governments and Union Territories which have not yet initiated such a programme on a regular basis to do so urgently with a view to economising in the long run on the upkeep and preservation of their permanent records. The concerned governments may consult, if necessary, the National Archives of India for this purpose.

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

(21) Resolution by Shri G. H. Khare

Resolution XIII The Indian Historical Records Commission recommends to all the State Archives to provide facilities for the supply of microfilms or typed copies of 'Open' records to bonafide Research Scholars on payment without any undue delay.

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

(22) Resolution by Dr.O.P.Bhatnagar

Resolution XIV Resolved that the State Governments be requested to open Regional, or Divisional archives in each Commissioner's Division, where the non-ephemeral records of all the Collectoratesetc. in the Division may be collected and preserved under the overall control and supervision of the Director of the State Archives. This is absolutely essential for the purpose of not only preservation of papers, but also for promoting the writing of regional history.

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

(23) Resolution by Dr.P.L.Mehra

Resolution XV Resolved that the Commission recommends to the authorities of the National Archives of India and of the State Archives to make available to bonafide research scholars residential accommodation at reasonable rates. Further more, it recommends for the consideration of the Ministry of Education at the Centre and in the States to put up hostels which will cater to the needs of such research scholars.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

The Chairman then moved the following resolution, which received the whole-hearted and unanimous approbation of the members:

Resolution XVI The President and members of the Commission thank the Government of Kerala for hosting its 41st Session at Trivandrum and making excellent arrangements for the success of its work. The Commission also expresses its appreciation and gratitude to the Education Secretary, the Local Secretary and their colleagues, for their untiring efforts and meticulous attention to details to ensure the smooth functioning of the Session and a comfortable and fruitful stay for the delegates.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Discussion Meeting

The discussion meeting on Religio-Political Movements in India in the 19th Century was held in the forenoon of 11th October 1971 at the Kanakakunnu Palace, Trivandrum. Before the meeting started, the Secretary, Dr.S.N.Prasad, informed the members that the Minister of State, Prof.S. Nurul Hasan, had to return to Delhi and suggested that Prof.Sri Ram Sharma, a senior member of the Commission, may be requested to preside. This was unanimously approved and Prof.Sharma took the Chair. The Commission had received in all five papers viz (i) Brahmo Samaj in Bihar in the Second Half of the 19th Century - Surendra Gopal and Satyanarain Prasad; (ii) Religious Movements in Orissa in the 19th Century - K.M.Patra; (iii) Anti-British Movement in Orissa, 1817 - B.C.Ray; (iv) Politico-Religious Upsurge in Bammanghattee Pargannah in 1866-67 A.D. - S.P.Sinha; and (v) A Survey of Religio-Political Movements in India in the 19th Century - Tara Sankar Banerjee.

Dr.Tara Sankar Banerjee first read his paper. In the discussion that followed, Shri F.M.Hassnain, Director, Jammu & Kashmir Archives, wanted to caution the members that very often the social and religious movements were treated as religio-political movements. Shri W.S.Khan from Madhya Pradesh was of the view that Wahabi Movement was a religious movement and not a political movement as its aim was to re-establish purity of Islamic religion. Dr.Fauja Singh of the Punjabi University felt that they could not cover all the 19th century movements under one category, as by doing so one

would be bringing in the Kuka Movement and the Arya Samaj Movement in the fold of religio-political movements without making any distinction between the two. He said that many religious movements had a social aspect as well, and such movements were neither purely religious nor purely political movements. Dr. Fauja Singh also objected to the use of the term movement for the Indian National Congress during the 19th century as according to him the Congress was a forum during that period. Dr. Panchanand Misra agreed with the points raised by Dr. Fauja Singh. Dr. Ravindran pointed out that Dr. Banerjee's paper did not mention important religious movements in Kerala in the 19th century, such as the movement organised by Shiva Narain against untouchability. Thiru S. Singarajan, Director of Archives, Tamil Nadu pointed out that non-Brahmin movements in the South might also be included in the orbit of such a paper.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Dr. S.N. Prasad remarked that the attempt should be to bring out new source materials on such subjects, which was the aim of the Indian Historical Records Commission. Prof. S.R. Sharma agreed with the above remarks of Dr. Prasad. He added that the recent publication of original material did not support the view that the Indian National Congress was a religio-political movement.

Dr. Banerjee in his reply stated that most of these movements had at times been religious and social. The Wahabi Movement was one such example. In this connection, he drew the attention of the members to a recent publication on the

Wahabi Movement by Asiatic Society, Dacca. He, however, did not agree with Thiru Singarajan's views that non-Brahmin agitation in the South was not a reaction but a movement.

Dr.K.M.Patra then read his paper. In the discussion that followed, Shri Hassnain pointed out that Dr.Patra did not refer to the records in Bengal. Dr.Tara Sankar held the view that the Mahima Movement was only a religious and not a religio-political movement, as it had little impact on the political life. He also doubted if Brahmo Samaj had any political activities.

Replying to the discussion, Dr.Patra stated that the Brahmo Samaj Movement had first started in Orissa and his aim was to point out the regional source materials available on the subject in Orissa. From these sources the religious aspect of Brahmo or Mahima Movements were clear, but not their social and political aspects. Prof.S.R.Sharma did not agree with the view that the Brahmo movement had its origin in Orissa, although Orissa could have given impetus to it. However, he opined that the paper was useful in bringing to light the source materials on Mahima Movement which had so far escaped the notice of the scholars.

Dr.B.C.Ray then read his paper on Anti-British Movement in Orissa in 1817. Dr.Ray remarked that his main aim was to bring to light the sources of this movement in Orissa.

The papers on "Politico-Religious Upsurge in Bammanghattee Pargannah in 1866-67 A.D" and on "Brahmo Samaj in Bihar in the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century" were not read due to the absence of the contributors.

Dr. Prasad then pointed out that with the 41st Session the existing term of the Indian Historical Records Commission would come to an end and that he was not sure whether the "Discussion Meetings" as such would continue to find a place in the revised constitution of the Commission. However, he suggested that it would be proper to select a subject for discussion at the next session of the Commission. He also reminded the delegates that the Commission's main aim in inviting these papers was to focus attention on the hitherto unknown source materials.

After some discussion, the following topic for the Discussion Meeting at the next Session of the Commission was agreed to:

"Agrarian Movements in India, from 1857 to 1947".

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of members who attended the 41st Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Trivandrum.

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1. Prof. S. Nurul Hasan (President)
2. Shrimati Padma Ramachandran
3. Dr. O. P. Bhatnagar
4. Prof. Sri Ram Sharma
5. Dr. J. N. Sarkar
6. Dr. G. H. Khare
7. Dr. D. P. Sinha
8. Dr. G. S. Dikshit
9. Dr. A. R. Kulkarni
10. Prof. S. A. Ali
11. Dr. R. K Dharaiya
12. Dr. H. L. Gupta
13. Shri M. P. Das
14. Thiru S. Singarajan
15. Shri F. M. Hassnain
16. Dr. B. S. Nijjar
17. Dr. K. N. Pandey
18. Dr. Amba Prasad
19. Shri V. G. Khobrekar
20. Dr. K. P. Srivastava
21. Dr. V. A. Narain
22. Dr. S. C. Misra
23. Dr. Fauja Singh
24. Dr. P. L. Mehra
25. Shri B. K. Basu
26. Shri R. S. Gupta
27. Dr. Panchanand Misra
28. Dr. S. P. Sen
29. Dr. Gopal Krishna
30. Dr. L. B. Keny
31. Dr. D. Tripathi
32. Shri S. B. Bhat
33. Dr. S. N. Prasad, (Ex-Officio Secretary)

Special invitees

34. Dr. D. N. Shukla
35. Dr. T. K. Ravindran
36. Prof. K. C. Kormocar

Tamil Nadu: The Tamil Nadu Government has revised the rules regulating access to Public Records in April 1970. The State Archives is open on every day except Sundays and other holidays. The hours of admission are from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Goa, Daman and Diu: The Administration accepts the Resolution. A proposal for the adoption of National Archives of India, Historical Research Rules, 1969 for Goa Archives, with some modifications, will be submitted to the Government soon.

Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh: The matter is under consideration.

Gujarat and Manipur: The Governments have not yet set up separate Archives Departments.

Delhi: The contents of the Resolution and Recommendation have been noted and necessary action in this behalf is being taken accordingly.

Madhya Pradesh: The State will follow the rules framed by the Central Government.

Pondicherry: There is no Archival Repository in the Union Territory, but there is a scheme for setting up the Archives Department under Plan.

Necessary action will be taken to implement the suggestion when a State archival repository is established.

Punjab: The State Government is in general agreement with the spirit of the Resolution in question and its implementation is being considered.

Annexure I

Conspectus of action taken on the Recommendations and Resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission

Resolutions of the 37th Session, Delhi, 7-9 October 1966

Resolution II The Commission expresses its keen sense of disappointment at the inadequacy of the steps taken so far to prevent migration of archives and other materials of historical and cultural value to foreign countries on the lines recommended by the Committee on Archival Legislation and resolves that the Government of India be requested to give effect to the Committee's proposals urgently.

Being of the view that development of a good internal market for such materials is essential to prevent their being smuggled out of the country and as their acquisition and preservation is a matter of national importance, the Commission further resolves to recommend to the State Governments that Statutory Bodies be set up, wherever they are not already constituted, to negotiate their acquisition and purchase, where necessary, on behalf of the Government and that adequate funds be placed at their disposal for the purpose.

In view of the limited financial resources of the State Governments, the Commission further resolves that the Government of India be requested to give the States adequate grants-in-aid to achieve the object in view.

The sentiments of the Commission on the subject have been conveyed to the Government of India. It is ascertained that the Cabinet has approved the proposal for the introduction of a Bill in Parliament regulating the export and sale of the Antiquities, which is to replace the existing Antiquities (Export Control) Act, 1947 and the State Governments are being consulted.

Resolution IX: The Commission resolves that the Government of India and the State Governments be requested to take steps to have suitable descriptive lists prepared as early as possible in respect of the non-British records in their custody.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab and U.P. were asked to send information regarding the progress made by them on the subject. Other State Governments and Union Territories were asked to state the action they have taken.

Further information that have been received from them are as follows:-

Maharashtra: The State Government has Marathi records at its repositories at Poona, Kolhapur and Bombay. Descriptive Lists of these records are under preparation. The Descriptive Lists of Shahu Daftar at Alienation Office, Poona and Nivadi Daftar at Kolhapur have been prepared and sent for printing. The listing of Persian records at Poona has also been taken up recently.

The Government has no French records in its custody. There are 6 volumes (1714, 1741, 1819) of Portguese records covering about 1,200 pages.

Laccadives: This Administration has no non-British records in its custody.

Punjab: The Descriptive List of all the non-British records in the custody of the Punjab State Archives has been prepared. The non-current records beyond 1947 have not yet been transferred to the State Archives.

Delhi: The Delhi Administration has reported that it has inter-alia in its custody a small collection of historical records pertaining to pre/post-Mutiny period, a few documents relating to the then British Residents,

and some records of the latter part of the 19th century which are called "Delhi Commissionary Records". The records were in a dilapidated condition, some of these are expected to be non-British in character and the Administration has been able to repair and rehabilitate some of these records. As soon as the remaining documents are repaired, steps will be taken to prepare a Descriptive List of these records.

Mysore: The contents of the Resolution will be implemented after the establishment of the State Archives in Mysore. In the meantime, the General Administrative Department (General Records) has been asked to prepare Descriptive Lists of the non-British records in its custody.

Goa, Daman and Diu: The matter has been taken up with the Planning Commissioner.

Gujarat and Haryana: Necessary action will be taken in the matter when a separate Department of Archives is set up in the States.

Uttar Pradesh: The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Madhya Pradesh: The records are in Modi script. As soon as a Modi language knowing person is available, the work will be taken up.

Andhra Pradesh: The scheme of compilation of a descriptive catalogues of records pertaining to Shah Jahan's reign was sanctioned by the State Government in 1967 and the work was taken up in May 1968. The work is in progress.

It will not be possible to take up the work of compilation of descriptive catalogue of non-British records in 1970 due to lack of technical staff and necessary funds. It is proposed to make some provision in the next year's budget subject to availability of funds. Otherwise, the work has to wait for the 5th Five-Year Plan.

Uttar Pradesh: The records belonging to the pre-British period have been published in the form of Calendar of Persian Correspondence in 3 volumes, and there is a scheme to publish more volumes by the State Archives of Uttar Pradesh. There are large number of books in manuscript form, in Persian, Urdu, Arabic and Sanskrit Languages of which an alphabetic index has also been published. If the Government of India agrees to provide sufficient grant for this purpose, the publication of records can be taken up on a larger scale by the State Archives.

Kerala: The bulk of the records in the State Archives, Trivandrum and the Archives at Ernakulam are non-British records. Of these, listing of 10,000 Cadjan records has been completed and the indexing of 2,500 documents is nearing completion. The preparation of descriptive lists for the remaining non-British records in these two repositories as well as in Archives at Calicut is in progress.

Rajasthan: The State Archives has already published two books, viz.

(i) A Descriptive List of Farmans, Manshurs and Nishans addressed by the Imperial Mughals to the Princes of Rajasthan (1962); and (ii) A Descriptive List of the Vakil Reports addressed to the Rulers of Jaipur, Vol.I (Persian) (1967). Volume II of these Reports was also being got ready.

Orissa: A Descriptive Catalogue of Sanads preserved in the State Archives including those of Moghul and Maratha periods has been compiled by the Orissa State Archives and is being finalised for publication.

Resolution XII. The Commission resolves that the Government of India be requested, in consultation with the Director of Rajasthan Archives, to take early steps to prepare suitable Descriptive Lists of State records in Persian, Rajasthani, etc. and that the cooperation of individuals, Universities and learned bodies be also sought in the implementation of the programme.

Further, the Commission resolves that the Ministry of Education, Government of India, and the University Grants Commission be requested to provide special funds for the purpose in view of the national importance of the records.

Rajasthan: For action taken, please see the remarks of the Government of Rajasthan on Resolution IX of the 37th Session as above.

Resolution XIX: The Commission resolves that the Government of Mysore be requested to set up a properly organised Archives Department of its own in the State.

The proceedings of the Commission on the subject were forwarded to the Government of Mysore for information and necessary action.

That Government has informed that a decision has been taken to set up a Directorate of Archives under the auspices of the Bangalore University with a full-time State Officer of the status of Head of a Department with knowledge and experience in Archives Science and of a academic distinction. The officer will be designated as Director of Archives in Mysore, Bangalore, and attached to the Department of History of the Bangalore University. The records will be kept by the Bangalore University on behalf of the Government, and the Government records sent to the Archives will be the property of the Government.

A Committee consisting of 6 Members(including one Chairman) has been formed. The Vice-Chancellor of the Bangalore University is its Chairman. The Secretary to Government in General Administration Department, incharge of the Records is proposed to be appointed as an Additional Member. The Committee will function as a Standing Committee for the State Central Archives and will also be entrusted with the writing of the History of Mysore State (1947-67) and the production of Year Books of Mysore State from 1967 onwards.

The Scheme of Development of Archives will form part of the Bangalore University Development Scheme in the Fourth Five Year Plan. The scheme relating to National Register of Records will also be implemented as part of the programme under "Development of Archives" by the Bangalore University.

It may also be noted that the Government of Mysore has sponsored the following Resolution for the consideration of the Commission, and it has been placed before it:

"The Indian Historical Records Commission resolves that the Government of India take immediate steps to extend cent-percent financial assistance to the State Governments to enable them to set up full-fledged records offices where there are no such offices so far."

Resolutions of the 38th Session, Jadavpur, 16-18 November 1967

Resolution V: The Commission heartily welcomes the recent decision of the Government of India in respect of access to the records of the Ministries of Home Affairs and External Affairs and expresses the hope that the other Ministries of the Government of India would take similar action at an early date.

Further, the Commission resolves that the State Governments be requested to fall in line with the Union Government and frame their rules on the subject in conformity with those in force in the National Archives of India.

National Archives of India: Generally the records at the National Archives of India are open for consultation upto 31.12.1945. The records of the Ministry of External Affairs are open for consultation only if they are more than 30 years old. Every effort is being made to liberalise the access rules to make the records open upto August 1947.

Replies have been received from the following State Governments and Union Territories:-

Jammu & Kashmir: As all pre-1925 records of the State have been thrown open for research, there seems no need to revise the rules for the time being.

Rajasthan: The pre-1925 non-Confidential records have been thrown open for research.

Laccadives: This Administration came into existence only in 1956. There is no State Archives or Museums in the Union Territory at present.

Orissa: The State Government has not yet been able to take up the question of framing rules for access to records in the State Archives. At present, the scholars are allowed to take excerpts from pre-Mutiny records without any censorship.

Kerala: The Kerala Government has framed new rules regulating access to their records in April 1971.

Mysore: The question of liberalisation of rules governing access to records will be taken up after the State Record Office is established.

> Resolution VIII. The Commission resolves that the Government of Orissa be requested to transfer the early 19th century Maratha and British records lying at present in the Office of the Board of Revenue, Orissa, to the Orissa State Archives.

Orissa: Steps are being taken to transfer the records from the Board of Revenue at Cuttack to the Orissa State Archives as soon as possible.

> Resolution IX: The Commission resolves that the Government of Orissa be requested to negotiate with the ex-ruling families of the former Princely States of the State to ensure proper preservation of their family papers and erstwhile State records and obtain access to scholars for purposes of research.

The National Archives has been in touch with Prof. Nurul Hasan of Aligarh University and Sri K.P. Singh Deo of Orissa, and any progress in the survey or acquisition of the papers would be intimated to the Commission.

> Resolution X: The Commission resolves that all necessary steps be taken by the Regional Records Survey Committees and the State Archives to find out which business houses or private businessmen are willing to make their records available for research, prepare a preliminary inventory of such records, and help in their arrangement and preservation.

Uttar Pradesh: Inspected and scrutinised the private records - bahies available with the family of Shri Girish Chandra, a businessman of Bharatendu Nivas, Chaukhamba, Varanasi. It has been found that these bahies begin from 1757 and are very important for the purpose of local history. Shri Girish Chandra has promised to donate these bahies to the State Archives.

Resolution XI The Commission resolves that the State Governments concerned be requested to place adequate funds at the disposal of the Regional Records Survey Committees in the States wherein they have been constituted for purchase of records discovered in the course of survey, wherever that is necessary.

The Commission further resolves that the papers acquired by the Regional Records Survey Committees be deposited at the respective State Archives and made available for research.

Delhi: The Administration has taken a decision to set up a Regional Records Survey Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi.

Maharashtra: The Maharashtra State Board for Archives and Archaeology is already looking after the work of survey and location of records in private custody in addition to the work relating to historical monuments. The Board has acquired for the State Archives about two lakhs of documents during 1970-71. Besides, the State Government has also taken up the question of separating the Department of Archaeology from the Department of Archives and final decision in this respect will be taken shortly.

A report of the progress made by the Regional Records Survey Committees for the last 10 years forms a separate paper (No. VII) Agenda Papers).

Setting up of Organised State Archival Repositories:

In connection with the report on Resolution XIII of the 38th Session(1967), discussion centred round the absence of organised State Archives at some places, Prof. Nurul Hasan drew attention to the valuable Pondicherry records and the need for a properly organised repository to look after them. Prof. Khadgawat mentioned that valuable historical records going back to a period prior to the Revolt of 1857 were to be found with the Delhi Administration and it was essential for Delhi to have a State Archives. Dr. Gopal Krishna observed that Delhi being a Union Territory, the Government of India has a particular responsibility in the matter. The consensus of opinion was that efforts to secure establishment of organised State Archives wherever they did not exist should be intensified.

Mysore: The question of setting up a State Archives is under the consideration of the State Government.

Laccadives: There is no State Archives or Museums in the Union Territory. The Administration came into existence only in 1956 and there is no plan for the establishment of an organised Record Office here at present.

Kerala: There is a separate Archives Department set up as early as 1962 and the same is functioning well.

Madhya Pradesh: A Historical State Archives Department has been set up in this State and the post of Registrar will soon be filled up.

Resolution XIV The Commission notes with regret that most of the University records are ill maintained and papers of historical value are irretrievably be lost. As such it resolves that the Universities be requested to entrust the care of their records to officers who have had training in Archives Keeping, consult historians of standing in selecting records for permanent retention, and also maintain them on scientific lines, as a separate entity.

Extracts from the Proceedings were sent to all the Universities in India, all the Members of the Indian Historical Records Commission representing the Universities and Secretary, Inter-University Board of India and Ceylon, New Delhi for their information and necessary action.

Further replies received during the year, are summarised below:-

The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda: The University is not in a position to implement the resolution due to financial stringency.

School of International Studies (Jawaharlal Nehru University): In view of the fact that the School of International Studies has been merged with the Jawaharlal Nehru University, it is too early to say what will be decided about the maintenance of the archives of the School.

Gujarat University: This University does not possess any Historical documents, manuscripts or other archival items of historical importance. The question, therefore, of its scientific maintenance and preservation or employing wholetime archivist does not arise.

Rajasthan University: Since no financial assistance was available from the Government of India, the consideration of the matter was dropped.

Allahabad University: The University requested the Government of Uttar Pradesh for sanctioning some staff for maintaining the University records. But the Government has turned down the suggestion. If the Indian Historical Records Commission can persuade either the Central Government or the Government of Uttar Pradesh to give the University adequate financial help, the suggestion may be implemented.

Jadavpur University: The Committee appointed by the University for proper care of its old records sought permission to make an enquiry into the nature and condition of old records of the University and the National Council of Education. It also recommended that a preliminary report and a hand list of documents be prepared and submitted to the University by the end of January 1971.

Punjabi University: The University has decided that the department of Punjab Historical Studies should keep custody of all the important documents of the University and that the materials should be used for writing the history of the University at a later stage.

Shivaji University: The University generally agrees with the suggestion. The University, however, being newly established, there will not be many papers at present to deal with.

Bangalore University: The State Government has proposed for setting up a Directorate of Archives under this University. The proposal is being considered by the Standing Committee constituted for this purpose. (Please also see reply from the Mysore Government under Resolution XIX, 37th Session, 1966).

Delhi University: The University of Delhi fulfils the recommendations regarding preservation of University Archives. It has a trained Archivist to take care of its records, with Post Graduate qualification in History and Diploma in Archives Science from the National Archives of India. The old records of this University since its inception in 1922, are being preserved as a separate entity and every effort is being made to maintain and preserve the records in the systematic and scientific manner.

Madras University: If the University Grants Commission makes a grant, the University will consider taking necessary steps in the matter.

University Grants Commission: The University Grants Commission at its meeting held on 3 March 1971 considered the recommendation and circulated a note to all the Universities in India to collect requisite information from them.

Sri Venkateswara University: The University has acquired microfilm copies of the Mackenzie Manuscripts from the Government of Andhra Pradesh and preserved them in safe condition. The University is young, hence its own archival materials (important records) are rather sparse.

University of Udaipur: It is not possible at present to implement the recommendation of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Magadh University: The University has proposed to establish an archival cell in the Magadh University.

Gauhati, Karnatak, Kurukshetra, Saugar Universities and Gujarat Vidyapith have informed that the matter is under consideration.

Resolutions of the 39th Session, Patna 25-27 December, 1968

Resolution II: The Commission resolves that the State Governments, where they have not already done so, be requested to include 'Development of Archives' as a State Plan item immediately, as recommended by the Government of India, so that sufficient attention is paid to this important aspect of both administrative and cultural importance, and that Central aid as provided for other Plan Schemes, is provided for it.

Being of the view that provision of properly planned commodious archival buildings is a first primary step required for organised development of central archival repositories, the Commission further recommends that construction of archival buildings should be included as a Plan-item and accorded the highest priority, both by the Government of India and the State Governments.

Being of the view that location, acquisition and proper preservation of papers of historical importance in private hands are matters of national importance and that delay in the proper execution of the scheme would lead to permanent loss of invaluable papers, the Commission also recommends that the National Register Scheme of Private Archives and the programme of acquisition and preservation of private archives be included as Plan-items, both at the Centre and in the States, and sufficient funds be provided for the purpose.

Tamil Nadu: The Development of Archives could not be included as a State Plan item in 1970-71. However, the State Government has agreed to provide Rs.1,49,900 as a Non-Plan Scheme for the installation of Fumigation Chamber in the State Archives in the Budget Estimates for 1970-71.

/Govt. of India and the various State

Resolution III: In view of the importance of making it possible for Indian historians to present an objective and authoritative account of events leading to the Partition of India and transfer of power, the Indian Historical Records Commission recommends to the/Governments that all public records upto the 15th August 1947, concerning events leading to partition and transfer of power, be thrown open to scholars as early as possible, and requests the National Archives of India to take immediate steps towards the collection of records pertaining to events leading to the partition of India and transfer of power from the various Ministries of the Government of India.

The Commission also feels that publication of documents pertaining to events leading to the partition and transfer of power will greatly assist scholarly research on this subject.

National Archives of India: Please see remarks under Resolution V of the 40th Session of Indian Historical Records Commission held at Madras in February 1970 on page 105.

Tamil Nadu: The access to records of the kind referred to in the resolution are allowed under specific orders of the State Governments and there is no practical difficulty experienced in this regard.

Resolution IV: The Commission resolves to urge upon the Government of India to introduce without any further delay necessary legislation on the administration of Archives in line with the recommendations of the Committee on Archival Legislation and resolve further that the State Governments be requested to do the same.

Tamil Nadu: The State Government is awaiting a communication from the Government of India regarding the introduction of suitable legislation in Parliament.

Resolution V: The Commission recommends that the records of the President of India and the Governors of the States may be preserved in their own permises in an archival manner.

Tamil Nadu: The records that are being maintained in the Governor's Secretariat itself in an archival manner are the Governor's fortnighly letters to the President of India and also some of the Governor's speeches on important occasions. These will be continued to be preserved in the Governor's Secretariat.

Resolution VI: The Commission resolves that the Government of India be requested to take early steps to obtain microfilm copies of documents scattered in West Asia relating to India's trade with that region.

With this end in view, the Commission further resolves that scholars who have knowledge of the languages concerned and the necessary historical background, be deputed to the countries to make proper selection of the papers to be obtained.

The Director, Institute of Oriental Studies, Tashkent, U.S.S.R., has been requested to give eight volumes of the Catalogues of Persian Manuscripts to enable the National Archives of India to select from them the items for which microfilm copies may be made. No reply has been received.

Resolution VII The Commission resolves that the National Archives of India be requested to compile and submit every year separately a list of acquisitions of public records, private papers, microfilm copies of papers of Indian interest acquired from abroad, and rare books published earlier than 1900, etc., by the National Archives of India, State Archives and Learned Institutions, during the year.

National Archives of India: The Government of India have accepted the Resolution and a List of Accessions etc. is circulated to the members at the annual Session of the Commission

Transfer of Residency Records with the various State Archives to the National Archives of India

Further efforts were made to ascertain the latest position of the location of Residency Records in various States. The Government of Gujarat has informed that some Crown Representative records are with the State Government. The Governments of Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have replied in the negative.

Madhya Pradesh: The Madhya Pradesh Government has informed that the records of the Nagpur Residency (1798-1854) and the Eastern States Residency (1836-1947) are available in the Madhya Pradesh Central Record Office at Nagpur.

Further reminders have been issued to make the information up-to-date.

Establishment of Record Offices by the State Governments and Union Territories

The Governments of Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Mysore, and all the Union Territories were asked to send information regarding the steps taken by them to set up Record Offices.

The replies received from the following Governments are summarised below:-

Laccadives: The Administration does not propose to organise a Central Record Office in the Territory at present.

Delhi: The Administration has agreed in principle to establish a Central Record Office in the Union Territory of Delhi.

Mysore: (Please see reply of the Government of Mysore under Resolution No. XIX, 37th Session, 1966).

Gujarat and Haryana: The matter is under consideration.

Resolutions of the 40th Session, Madras, February, 1970

Resolution I: The members of the Indian Historical Records Commission deeply mourn the death of Monsieur Etienne Emile-Marie Sabbe, Dr. Sukumar Bhattacharya, Dr.M.G. Dikshit and Dr.(Cavaliero) Panduranga Pissurlencar, and desire their sentiments to be conveyed to the next of kin.

The Resolution was forwarded to the members of the bereaved families.

Resolution II: The Commission requests the Secretary to discuss the question of access to the old records of the State Bank of India, especially the papers of the Presidency Banks, with the authorities of the State Bank of India personally and try to obtain their permission so that scholars may be able to consult them.

The Secretary visited the State Bank of India, Bombay in June 1970 and had a discussion with Shri S.K. Taparia, Deputy Secretary, on the subject. The Secretary proposed to offer all necessary advice and assistance in setting up a small well equipped archival repository for the records of the State Bank of India. The National Archives of India would be prepared to accept its old records for permanent preservation if the Bank so desired.

The Secretary also suggested to the Bank that it might make available for consultation by the Research Scholars the minutes of its Board Meetings, Annual Reports and Balance Sheets for the period 1806-1920 immediately. On the basis of the experience gained, the Bank might in due course consider throwing open other types of records subject to statutory requirements of secrecy etc.

The suggestions offered by the Secretary are being viewed favourably by the State Bank of India, and an early decision is expected.

> Resolution III: The Commission endorses the suggestion made by its Secretary in his report on Resolution VI of the 38th Session of the Commission and recommends that a Standing Committee of the Commission be constituted to review the action taken from time to time on the recommendations of the Commission and to make recommendations during inter-Session period.

The Resolution was forwarded for the consideration of the Government of India. Since the term of the present Commission is due to expire in October 1971, certain proposals have been made for amending the constitution of the Commission, inter alia it has been suggested that the constitution should make a specific provision for a Standing Committee in accordance with the spirit of the Resolution. The matter is under consideration of the Government of India.

> Resolution IV Reiterating the recommendations made under Resolution II of its 39th Session (1968) regarding Development of Archives being included as a Plan item, the Commission requests the State Governments inter alia to provide suitable buildings for proper preservation of records at an early date and give adequate facilities to scholars for conducting research, including those of photo-duplication and microfilming. The Commission also requests the Government of India and the State Governments to associate scholars in the framing of policies concerning selection of records for permanent preservation.

The Resolution was forwarded to all the State Governments and Union Territories. The action taken as reported is as follows:

Pondicherry: A scheme for setting up a Museum and Archives has been included in the 4th Five-Year Plan with an outlay of Rupees One lakh. A totai provision is provided for this in the budget for 1970-71. The Museum and the Archives are proposed to be located at the multistoreyed building proposed to be constructed for the Public Library, Pondicherry.

Laccadives: No proposal has been made so far for any separate building for the preservation of Government Archives. Scholars interested in the records of this Territory will be given full facilities as and when required.

Mysore: The Scheme of Development of Archives will form part of Bangalore University Development Scheme in the 4th Five-Year Plan. (For details see reply under Resolution XIX of 37th Session).

Goa, Daman and Diu: The Government has provided an amount of Rupees One lakh in the Plan Budget for 1970-71 for Development of Archives, for which clearance from Planning Commission is awaited.

There is no provision for a building for the State Archives in the Plan Budget for 1970-71. The Government, however, has a proposal for construction of a multipurpose building and the question of providing a suitable accommodation for Archives will be considered in due course.

No arrangements for photo-duplication and microfilming have so far been made, and they would be provided in due course.

Tripura: The Government has recently organised a Museum and is actively considering the question of setting up an Archives Office in that Museum in the near future.

Punjab: The Government has already admitted a scheme for Development of State Archives at a total cost of Rs.54,800. The State Archives Department has started a Research Section, where facilities are provided to the Research Scholars to conduct research among the State Records.

Delhi: The Administration has taken a decision to set up a Central Repository in Delhi. As soon as necessary details are worked out, the question of inclusion of "Development of Archives" as a Plan item will be considered.

Adequate facilities, however, are at present provided to the Research Scholars to conduct research among the records in the Secretariat Record Room, where all the records have been centralised. The Administration has no equipments for photo-duplication and microfilming of records.

As regards association of Research Scholars in framing policies for selection of records, the recommendation has been noted, and would be considered as and when the question of framing such policies arises.

Manipur: An amount of Rs.28,600 has been provided in the Plan Budget for 1970-71 for opening a State Archives Department. No provision has been made for a building at present. No facilities for conducting research are provided as the State Archives is not yet opened.

Uttar Pradesh: The Plan provision for Development of Archives is Rs.15,000 and Budget provision is Rs.15,000 for 1970-71.

A new building for the State Archives is being constructed at Lucknow. There is a provision of Rs.11,62,200 for the construction of this building, of which a Non-Plan expenditure of Rs.3,00,000 has been sanctioned for 1970-71.

Microfilming machine, Document printer, Enlarger, Reader etc. are available at the State Archives, Allahabad, and Research Scholars are provided with requisite facilities.

Haryana: There is no Archives Office in Haryana at present, However, steps are being taken to organise it.

Gujarat: Necessary action in the matter will be taken when a separate Department of Archives is set up in the State. The question of setting up the same is under consideration.

Rajasthan: The Government has agreed to include Development of Archives in the State Plan. A sum of Rs.3,00,000 has been provided for this in the 4th Five-Year Plan, out of which Rs.90,000 has been sanctioned for the year 1970-71. This includes construction of a new block in the Department.

The State Archives Department has thrown open all pre-1935 non-confidential records to the Research Scholars. It has also offered other facilities for research including microfilming.

The Research Room is kept open from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. on all days including Sundays and other Gazetted holidays. Expert guidance is also provided when scholars find it difficult to decipher the scripts. Facilities for providing microfilm copies of records also exist.

Kerala: There is a plan provision of Rupees One lakh for 1970-71 for the construction of a new Archives Building. The Budget provision for this Department is Rs.2,23,700 for 1970-71.

Admission to the Archives Repositories is governed by the rules prescribed in this behalf. The Archives at Trivandrum, Ernakulam and Kozhikode are open daily except Sunday and other holidays. The hours of admission are from 10.30 A.M. to 5 P.M. The Archives Department has not yet obtained equipment for photo-duplication and microfilm services.

The Government is now engaged in re-drafting the rules to liberalise the provisions governing access to the Archives.

West Bengal: The Development of Archives has been made a plan item in the State 4th Five-Year Plan. But in the State Budget for 1970-71 no provision has been made for the State Archives Building.

The scholars are given adequate facilities for consulting records in the Search Room. There is, however, no arrangement for photo-duplication and microfilming in the State Archives. But scholars are allowed to take microfilm/photostat copies of records at their own expense by arrangement with outside agencies who bring up their camera etc. and take snaps inside the State Archives in the presence of an officer.

Maharashtra: This Government considered the question of including the Development of Archives as a Plan Scheme and has decided that it is not feasible to do so. It has been decided that this scheme should be treated as a non-plan scheme. Steps to provide for additional funds are being taken.

The Government has already decided that the State Archives should have a building at Poona at an estimated cost of Rs.20 lakhs. Construction of this building is likely to start shortly.

Arrangements for providing adequate facilities to the scholars for conducting research on the records in the State Archives have been provided. Separate writing table chairs and table lamps have been provided for the use of the research scholars. If the scholars need any assistance in typing, photo duplicating and microfilming of documents they are advised to approach private agencies for getting the work done in the premises of the State Archives under the supervision of the officers of that organisation because these facilities are at present not available in the State Archives.

As regards associating the scholars in the weeding of the Government records in this State, the Director of Archives is associated in the weeding of the records in question. It is, therefore, not considered necessary to have the advice of the scholars for the purpose. Besides, associating them is not considered either feasible or practicable.

Andaman and Nicobar: There are no archives in this Territory, and, as such, no plan provision for Development of Archives has been included in the budget of this territory. There are also no records of historical importance which could be thrown open for research scholars. There is a Record Room in the Secretariat for keeping only old official files. The records from 1945 onwards are kept in this Record Room.

In the absence of State Archives, no Index, List, Calendar or other invaluable record is being published by this Administration. There are also no non-British records of which Descriptive Lists are required to be prepared.

Orissa: The Development of State Archives in Orissa is included in the Plan Scheme. The permanent building for the State Archives is under construction which has been completed upto the 2nd floor. The State Archives is expected to shift to the new building in course of a month or so. Steps are being taken for setting up of a Microfilm Unit in the State Archives. Orders have also been issued that all 'B' and 'C' class records of different offices are not to be destroyed without consultation with the Superintendent, State Archives, who may select such among these records as he may consider fit for permanent preservation.

Jammu & Kashmir:- (i) No provision stands sanctioned for Development of Archives in the State's 4th Five-Year Plan for 1970-71. The State Government has, however, made necessary provision in the 4th Plan for compilation of National Register of Records.

(ii) No provision exists for construction works for 1970-71, and

(iii) Regarding arrangements for providing facilities to the scholars for conducting research on the records in the State Archives including those of photo-duplication and microfilming - the State Planning Department is taking up the matter with the Planning Commission for including them in the Plan.

Assam: The proposal for construction of an Archival Building has been accepted by the Government. In fact plan and estimates for the construction were prepared long before, but its implementation will be delayed in view of the latest political development in the State.

The proposal for association of scholars in formulating policies for selection of records for permanent preservation is under consideration of the Government.

Andhra Pradesh: A sum of Rs.1.75 lakhs has been provided in the budget for the year 1970-71 for the Development of Archives. No provision has been made either for a new building or additions in the existing building since a new building has already been constructed under III Five Year Plan. Two big room - one for the research scholars and the other for preservation of records, have been provided in the new building. Photo duplication work is also done in the State Archives.

> Resolution V The Commission notes with satisfaction the acceptance in principle of Resolution III of its last Session regarding records pertaining to Partition and Transfer of Power by the Government of India and some of the State Governments, and requests the Secretary to pursue the matter further to secure the implementation of the Resolution as early as possible.

Action taken: This Resolution is in reiteration of Resolution III of 39th Session (1968). The present Resolution, which was forwarded to the Government of India, involves three issues, viz., (i) access to all the records of the Government of India relating to partition and transfer of power in India, (ii) similar facilities to be given by the

State Governments to the scholars with respect to records in their custody upto 15th August 1947, (iii) publication by the Government of India of relevant documents on the subject.

As regards (iii) a provision of Rs.40,000 has been made in the Budget of the National Archives of India for 1970-71. A detailed proposal including the staff required for undertaking the publication in question has also been sent by the Department to the Government of India. Their decision is awaited. With regard to item (i), in addition to what was included in the Conspectus in the last Session (February 1970) replies have been received from a few more Ministries of the Government of India. The replies which in a few cases also contain information on item (iii) also, are summarised below:-

Ministry of Home Affairs has no objection to the publication of documents in question. However, all documents taken out of post-1945 records of the Ministry may be shown to them before they are released for publication.

Ministry of External Affairs is not in favour of throwing open records relating to transfer of power and partition to all Research Scholars. It is, however, in favour of publishing the documents in question. This would be done under the overall supervision of the National Archives of India, which should collect materials on the subject from the various Ministries as well as private persons. A Committee consisting of eminent historians should be constituted as the Editorial Board, which should have unrestricted access to all such records.

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting agrees to the proposal for publication of documents in question. The work could be entrusted to the National Archives of India.

Ministry of Defence does not hold any document/ record relating to events leading to partition of India and transfer of power.

As regards (ii), no reply from the State Governments other than those placed before the 40th Session (February 1970) has been received.

> Resolution VI The Commission notes with satisfaction that the Education Minister is trying to expedite the enactment of an Archival Legislation and hopes that an appropriate Bill will be introduced in the Parliament in 1970.
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> The Commission records its appreciation of the suggestion made by the Minister that a Business Session of the Commission may be convened for a discussion of the problems facing the archivists and scholars. It expresses the hope that such a Session will be held soon enabling the members to have the benefit of exchanging views with the Minister, and that there will be a discussion on the progress made in connection with the various recommendations of the Committee on Archival Legislation.

As regards Archival Legislation the matter is under the active consideration of Government from different angles in consultation with the Ministries concerned. It is expected that suitable recommendations will be placed before the Cabinet at an early date and a decision reached.

As regards para 2 of the Resolution, the President of the Commission has directed that an additional day may be set apart at the 41st Session at Trivandrum for a discussion of the problems referred to, and the duration of the Commission's Session may be four days instead of the customary three days.

Resolution VII: The Commission offers its felicitations to the Tamil Nadu Archives on the happy occasion of its Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, and records its high appreciation of its great contributions in the field of archives and historical research.

Thiru S. Singarajan, Director of Archives, Tamil Nadu Archives, has expressed his thanks to the Members of the Commission for adopting the Resolution.

Resolution VIII: The Commission resolves that to facilitate the consultation of records preserved by them the Records Repositories of the State Governments be requested to prepare and publish consolidated guides to their Pre-Independence records.

The Resolution was forwarded to all the State Governments and Union Territories for necessary action. The replies received from them are summarised below:

Delhi: The records from 1912 onwards are with the Delhi Administration. A small collection of records (Pre-Mutiny and Post-Mutiny period) are also preserved here. The Indexes from 1912 to 1940 have been published. Preparation of Guides to the records will be taken up after the repair and renovation of the records are completed.

Mysore: The matter will be taken up after the State Archives is set up in the State.

Haryana & Laccadives: The States have no Pre-Independence records.

Goa, Daman and Diu: The contents of the Resolution have been noted for future necessary action.

Uttar Pradesh: The Government has accepted the Resolution, and the Guide will be prepared in the State Archives, Allahabad.

Gujarat & Manipur: The States have no Archives Offices.

Andhra Pradesh: "A Guide to the State Archives" covering the Pre-Independence records preserved in the State Archives has been prepared and is now under print.

West Bengal: The revision of the Catalogue of the English records (1758-1858) preserved in the State Archives has been taken up. After completion of Pre-Mutiny records, revision of the Catalogue of records from 1859 onwards will be taken up.

Punjab: The State Archives is preparing the requisite Guide, and necessary steps to publish the same will be taken up as soon as the work is completed.

Maharashtra: The matter is receiving attention.

Kerala: The three repositories of the State are engaged in sorting, listing and indexing of the Pre-Independence records in their custody as a precursor to the compilation of comprehensive Guides. All endeavours will be made to finish these preliminary works and compile a proper Guide Book for the records of each of the three Archives as expeditiously as possible.

Orissa: The resolution has been accepted in principle. However, the work of preparation of a Guide to pre-Independence records will be taken up when the non-current records available in different records offices of the State are centralised in the State Archives under the scheme of reorganisation and development of archives.

Assam: The recommendation has been accepted and the question of sanctioning additional staff for the work is under consideration.

Maharashtra: The Government has launched a scheme of preparation of Catalogue of all series of records upto the period 1947. So far two series of Catalogues of Political Department and Public Department have been completed. A Catalogue of Commercial Department is under preparation. This cataloguing of pre-Independence records will be completed by the State Archives according to the programme.

> Resolution IX: To facilitate genuine research work at the State Archives, the Commission resolves to recommend to the State Governments to dispense with the scrutiny of excerpts taken by research scholars from all 'open' records.

The Resolution was forwarded to all the State Governments and Union Territories. The summary of the replies received from them is given below:-

Delhi: The Delhi Administration follows the rules framed by the National Archives of India for consultation of records by bona fide Research Scholars. If National Archives of India accepts the recommendations, this Administration will follow the same.

Laccadives: The Administration has no objection to dispense with the scrutiny of excerpts taken by the Research Scholars from open records.

Goa, Daman and Diu: The contents of the Resolution have been noted for future necessary action.

Manipur: As there is no Archives Office in Manipur, the matter cannot be taken up now.

Gujarat: Necessary action in the matter will be taken after setting up a separate Department of Archives in this State.

Punjab & Rajasthan: Agree with the Resolution.

West Bengal: The revision of the rules is under the consideration of the Government.

Kerala: The matter is under consideration.

Mysore: The State Archives is yet to be set up in the State.

Orissa: Since the non-current permanent records of all the Departments have not been centralised in the Archives, no rules have been framed for access to records for research scholars. This will be taken up after centralisation of non-current permanent records of different Departments, and rules will be framed for guiding research in the State Archives. For the present, scholars are given facilities for research in pre-Mutiny records of Cuttack and Balasore Collectorates preserved in the State Archives, and are not required to leave their excerpts for scrutiny.

Assam: The research rules have been modified recently, and the suggestion has been accepted partially.

Andhra Pradesh: The Government has accepted the recommendation.

The Government also accepted the recommendation of the Commission for abolishing the system of scrutiny of excerpts, copies or notes of non-confidential nature taken by researchers from records which are declared open.

In regard to confidential records, the scrutiny of excerpts, copies or notes taken by the researchers should be insisted upon as a safeguard against vaxatious, litigations, discussion on controversial live issues, endangering national integrity, communal harmony and such other comments on the actions of Administrators, Politicians

and others who might be living. The scrutiny of excerpts from confidential records should be completed within three months from the date of the submission of excerpts by the researchers.

> Resolution X The Commission resolves that the State Archives of Goa and Kerala be requested to prepare Indexes in English of all the Portuguese and Malayalam records respectively in their custody.

The Government of Kerala has informed that there are a few Malayalam records in the Archives at Kozhikode dealing with Revenue and Settlement matters. Their indexes have been prepared in English. Steps are being taken to prepare English Indexes of Portuguese records in the Archives at Ernakulam. The English Indexes of Malayalam records in the Archives at Trivandrum, are under preparation.

Goa, Daman & Diu: The future publication work of indexing, listing etc. will be carried out in English.

> Resolution XI The Commission resolves that the National Archives of India be requested to make efforts to obtain from England copies of such records bearing on Military History of India as are not available in India, so that the wide gaps in the records held in the National Archives of India after 1895 be bridged for the benefit of the researchers.

The National Archives of India has in its custody several bundles of "War Proceedings" (1914-17). There are, however, gaps in this series. In 1955 a huge bulk of Military Department's records, including those of some of the agencies subordinate to it, were transferred to the National Archives of India from the Defence Department Record Room, Calcutta. These records range from 1860 to 1938.

In addition, a few other organisations under the Defence Department have also retired their non-current records to the National Archives of India. The Department has also some files of War Department for the period 1942-46. There are lacunae in almost all the series of these records. Besides, many of the records are without their lists. The Historical Section of the Ministry of Defence has in its possession a large bulk of records pertaining to both the First and the Second World Wars. Other Defence organisations are also holding large quantities of non-current records.

It is necessary in the first instance to ascertain what information and materials are available in India before we approach the India Office Library, London, National Archives of India is taking necessary action to ascertain the position, and this will take some time.

> Resolution XII The Commission notes with satisfaction that the Education Minister is trying to expedite the enactment of Archival Legislation and it requests the Government of India to communicate the draft of their legislation to the States so that the latter may take up simultaneous legislation in respect of their records.

The question of Archival Legislation is under the active consideration of the Government of India. Every effort is being made to expedite matters, and it is expected that the question will go before the Cabinet at an early date.

Resolution XIII. The Commission resolves to recommend to the State Governments that the records of the National Movement, especially from 1885-1947, in the custody of the offices of the Home Department and other offices/Departments and quasi-Government offices may be transferred to the State Archives and thrown open for research where this has not been done already.

The Resolution was forwarded to all the State Governments and Union Territories. The summary of the replies received so far is given below:

Laccadives: There are no records relating to National Movement.

Goa, Daman and Diu: Steps have already been taken for the implementation of the Resolution.

Delhi: A Central Repository has not been set up in Delhi as yet. A few records pertaining to Pre and Post Mutiny period and all the records since 1912 are being maintained in the Secretariat Records Department at present. Although the Administration has not many records pertaining to the latter part of 19th century, yet it has no objection in making available for study the records pertaining to the National Movement upto the year 1947.

The recommendation regarding establishment of Central Archives in Delhi is being considered. If and when decision to set up the same is arrived at, necessary steps would be taken to centralise all the records on National Movement which are at present scattered in different offices.

Manipur: There is no Archives Office in Manipur. The recommendation cannot, therefore, be taken up now.

Gujarat and Haryana: Necessary action in the matter will be taken when separate Departments of Archives are set up in the States. The question of establishing the same is under consideration.

Kerala: The Government will bear in mind the contents of the Resolution and will do everything possible to throw open to the scholars the records relating to the National Movement.

Punjab and Rajasthan: The State Governments agree with the Resolution.

Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal: The matter is receiving attention.

Goa, Daman and Diu: All the Departments of the Goa Administration were asked to make arrangements for the transfer of records relating to the National Movement, specially from 1885-1947, if any, to the Directorate of Historical Archives, Goa.

Mysore: The Commission's recommendation will be kept in view at the time of forming the State Archives.

Madhya Pradesh: The State Archives is yet to be established, and as such the transfer of records of the National Movement from the Government offices to the State Archives is not possible.

Orissa: There is a general demand for research in modern politics and National Movement of India since 1885. Many scholars are coming forward for research in topics connected therewith. It is, therefore, desirable that the records connected with modern politics and National Movement should be centralised in one place, i.e. the State Archives and made available to the scholars for research. Steps are being taken for its implementation.

Assam: Whatever records relating to the Freedom Movement were available in the Secretariat Record Office have been thrown open for research upto 1947. The transfer of similar records from other offices is not possible at present for lack of requisite accommodation.

Andhra Pradesh: It is not possible to split the records on National Movement from the series of other records of various Departments nor it is possible to keep all the records from 1885 to 1947 of all Government or quasi-Government Departments at the State Archives for want of space. Hence the suggestion is not feasible.

> Resolution XIV. The Commission resolves that the National Archives of India be requested to set up adequate mobile microfilm units to take microfilm copies of private papers in different parts of India at the request of the Regional Records Survey Committees or otherwise, and that one copy of such papers be deposited in the State Archives and another copy in the National Archives. The Commission also recommends that the expenditure involved should be met by the National Archives.

The Government of India to whom the Resolution was forwarded invited information on the following points from all the State Governments and Union Territories to enable the Government of India to examine the recommendations: (i) the volume of records which the State Governments would like to be microfilmed, (ii) whether the State Governments would be prepared to pay for the copies and also bear the expenses on travelling etc., allowance of the staff of National Archives of India to be deputed for the purpose.

The National Archives of India has at present a small mobile Microfilm Unit, which is engaged mainly in microfilming private papers of national importance and such other papers in which the Department itself is interested. It is proposed to expand the facilities for taking up microfilming work on site. Replies received from the States are summarised below:

Delhi: There are no records to be microfilmed now. However, a proposal to set up a Regional Records Survey Committee to acquire private papers is being examined. The question of getting the private papers microfilmed through the National Archives of India will be decided as and when papers are acquired by the proposed Regional Records Survey Committee.

Goa, Daman and Diu: The Goa Archives is already having a microfilm camera of its own and so there is no need of setting up a mobile microfilm unit in the Territory.

Maharashtra and West Bengal: The matter is receiving attention.

Tripura and Laccadives: There are no private papers to be microfilmed at present.

Manipur: There is no Archives Office in Manipur.

Gujarat: There is no separate Department of Archives in this State at present, hence the information is nil.

Punjab: The State Government is not in favour of bearing the expenses on the travelling allowance of the staff of the Mobile Microfilm Unit of the National Archives of India to be deputed for taking copies of private papers.

The expenditure for the said purpose may be met by the National Archives of India as recommended by the Indian Historical Records Commission and four microfilm copies of the private papers may be made available free of cost to the State Archives. However, information in regard to the volume of records which the State Government would like to be microfilmed, cannot be furnished at this stage, because the State Archives has not been able to take up the work of scrutinising the private papers so far.

Uttar Pradesh: The number of private papers in various Districts which are to be microfilmed, can be ascertained after the Regional Records Survey Committee has examined them.

The private papers which the State Archives is unable to acquire by purchase or gift, will be microfilmed by the Mobile Microfilm Unit of the National Archives of India and the expenditure incurred on this account will be borne by the State Government.

Haryana: The State Government has no records to be microfilmed.

Tamil Nadu: The resolution is under consideration of the State Government.

Rajasthan: The State Archives has its own Microfilm Camera, hence the question of microfilming the documents by the National Archives of India does not arise.

Kerala: The question of taking microfilm copies of the records is deferred for the present in view of the non-availability of the funds for the purpose.

Andhra Pradesh: The State Government agrees with the resolution in principle, and all possible assistance will be given by the Government to the National Archives of India for taking microfilm copies of private papers in different parts of the State.

> Resolution XV: The Commission resolves that the National Archives be requested to procure and preserve copies of Annual Administration Reports of the States and reports of various Committees and Commissions published by the State Governments and the Centrally Administered Areas for the use of Research Scholars.

The Resolution was forwarded to all the State Governments and Union Territories. The replies received from them are summarised below:-

Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, West Bengal, Delhi, Manipur and Laccadives: The Governments have accepted the Resolution and are taking steps to implement the same.

Maharashtra: The matter is receiving attention.

Orissa: Action is being taken to issue necessary instructions for supply of copies of Annual Administration Reports and reports of various Committees and Commissions published by the State Government to the National Archives of India.

Andhra Pradesh: The Government supports the resolution.

> Resolution XVI. The Commission recommends that a typed copy of all theses bearing on Modern Indian History, approved by Indian Universities for the award of Ph.D. Degree should be deposited in the National Archives of India for consultation by scholars as soon as the result is declared. Where Universities find it difficult to deposit a copy in the National Archives, one should be sent to it to be microfilmed for the use of the scholars.

The Resolution was forwarded to all the Universities in India for consideration. Karnatak University and Calcutta University have agreed to send a copy of the theses to the National Archives of India. Gujarat University and Visva-Bharati have agreed to lend theses for being microfilmed. Rajasthan University has stated that it has no copy to spare; it has been asked again to state if it is willing to lend a copy for taking out a microfilm copy. Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda has not accepted the Resolution.

> Resolution XVII The Commission notices that the State Archives in a number of States are issuing Indexes, Lists, Calendars and other invaluable record publications, but the number of copies printed is very limited. The Commission recommends that the institutions concerned should print not less than 500 copies and the same should be supplied free of cost to all University Libraries, post-graduate centres of historical research, learned institutions and premier libraries.

The Resolution was forwarded to all the State Governments and Union Territories. The replies received from them are summarised below:-

Delhi and Laccadives: Necessary action will be taken when the copies are printed.

Kerala, Punjab and Goa, Daman and Diu: The Resolution has been noted.

Uttar Pradesh: The State Government is not in favour of the Resolution as it will involve additional expenditure if the publications of the State Archives are supplied free of cost to the large number of Universities and other

institutions in this country. Since the prices of the State Government publications are usually very low, the Government feels that the Universities and other institutions can easily afford to buy them.

Gujarat and Manipur: There is no separate State Archives Department at present.

Rajasthan: The State Government has issued orders for necessary action.

West Bengal: The State Government will not possibly be in a position to bear the additional financial burden, if 500 copies of each series of record publications are to be printed and supplied free of cost to all the Ministries and Learned Institutions. However, copies of such publications as and when brought out, will be supplied free, as usual, to the National Archives, National Library and the Archives Offices of different States.

Mysore: The matter will be taken up when the State Archives is set up in the State.

Maharashtra: The matter is receiving attention.

Haryana: The recommendation will be kept in view whenever such materials are published.

Madhya Pradesh: The State Government is not issuing Indexes, Lists, Calendars and other invaluable record publications for the present. The recommendation, however, will be kept in view while taking up the work.

Orissa: The resolution has been accepted.

Assam: The recommendation is under consideration of the Government.

Andhra Pradesh: This resolution is not acceptable in toto. The State Government considers that the publications have to be priced and interested institutions have to purchase them except where books or journals are exchanged on reciprocal basis.

Maharashtra: It is possible to supply such publications free of cost which are not priced ones. However, it would not be possible to supply priced publications free of cost. It is also pointed out that the prices of this State Government publications are always on no loss, no profit basis and hence the prices are low. It, therefore, seems that the Universities and Learned Institutions etc. will not find it difficult to purchase them. List of this State Government publications is sent to these Institutions from time to time.